The Middlebury Campus

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Chief Justice Roberts to address Middlebury

By Benjamin Salkowe
Editor-in-Chief

Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr. will deliver Middlebury's Fulton lecture next month, College President Ronald D. Liebowitz announced in an all-campus e-mail on Friday. While not an official part of the strategic plan's proposed college-wide convocation series, Liebowitz wrote Tuesday that the event could serve as a foundation for community-wide discussions and illustrate the plan's recommendation.

Roberts, 51, will speak in Mead Chapel at 8:15 p.m. on Oct. 24. Following his lecture the Chief Justice will take questions from the audience before attending a reception in McCullough.

Lisa Zaval

"I can think of few positions that are more important than the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, especially at a time when our country is so fractured politically," wrote Liebowitz in an e-mail Tuesday. "What Chief Justice Roberts has to say, no matter his political affiliation, should be of great interest to all of us."

Student political leaders from both parties agreed that the Chief Justice's visit would be an opportunity for meaningful political discussion.

"While all of us might not agree with Chief Justice Roberts' politics in his decision-making, there is no denying that we all stand to explore our own personal beliefs through listening to his words," wrote Antoinette Rangel '09, president of the College Democrats, in response to the announcement.

"I hope that [Roberts'] lecture will give the student body some sort of understanding of conservative viewpoints," wrote Natalie Komrovsky '09, co-president of the College Republicans, in an e-mail Friday.

See College, page 5

Chris Heinrich

Do you know the hot dog man?
Throughout the past year, the genial Steve Houghtalling could be found selling hot dogs from his conspicuously red stand in front of Steele's Service Center. Within weeks, however, Houghtalling will be closing up the stand and moving away from the community which has reveled in his sales — purchasing, on average, 50 hot dogs a day during the summer months. Get 'em while they're hot, cause they'll be gone soon.

Faculty numbers improve

By Scott Greene
News Editor

Middlebury College's total number of occupied faculty positions went up only slightly this year, despite the addition of 36 new teachers. The change signals the beginning of the gradual implementation of part of the College's Strategic Plan, which proposes to "increase faculty resources and enhance student-faculty interaction."

"Thirty-six warm bodies have come to Middlebury," Ramaswamy said, "but that's not 36 new faculty."

The total number of faculty at Middlebury, measured as Full-Time Equivalents (FTE's), rose incrementally to 223 1/3 through the addition of 36 new teachers. However, the 26 new faculty and 10 assistants who comprise the group only account for a net increase of 2 5/6 total faculty positions.

"Of the new people coming, the majority of these are not what you

See Student, page 2

Stan Barouh

Middlebury theatre vacations in Maryland
Senior Laura Harris appeared with other Middlebury students and alum in the Potomac Theatre Project's 20th season this past summer. See page 15.

Students facing Facebook's realities

By Kathryn Flagg
Associate Editor

Be ware the perils of Facebook, warned Middlebury College Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson and Dean of the College Tim Spears in an August 31 e-mail outlining the pitfalls of the popular social networking website. The warning highlighted privacy concerns related to the website and urged students to become "savvy" Facebook users conscious of the broad audience that could access their online information.

The surprisingly prescient e-mail and a corresponding guide of online recommendations ironically came just days before the website saw massive updates that created individual "news feeds" — news wires that gather information from the actions of all of a user's friends and compile it on the user's home page. The feature proved wildly unpopular at first, inciting hundreds of thousands of users to sign petitions and join Facebook groups protesting the news feed, which was subsequently updated to expand user privacy controls.

At the same time, Facebook creator Mark Zuckerberg, 22, announced that the site — originally available only to individuals with approved university e-mail addresses — will soon allow anyone with a valid e-mail address to become a user. Though, according to company spokeswoman Melanie Deitch, there is no set date for the expansion, current users are already concerned at the potential ramifications of the change.

The changing face of Facebook — and the almost immediate student backlash — prompted increased media coverage of the self-proclaimed "social utility." For Middlebury students the national debate is coupled with the College's informal advice pertaining to the website, and for the first time since Middlebury students logged on two years ago, the social networking website — and its over 9 million users — are at the forefront of the College's collective administrative and social consciousness.

The College's e-mail and online recommendations were prompted, said Spears, by "a growing awareness of the problems for students" that Facebook can cause.

"We live in a different world now and information can travel widely and quickly," he said. The "friendly advice" distributed to students was

See Deans, page 3

Proposed SafeRides to lead student government agenda

By Anthony Adragna
Staff Writer

SGA President Alex Stanton '07 will focus on the implementation of his SafeRides program and increased involvement in the student body this semester, he said in an interview on Sunday.

Stemming from a campaign promise last year, Stanton will make the creation of SafeRides, a shuttle service to reduce drunk driving from off-campus parties, his first priority as President. "Many schools in NESCAC have this type of program to eliminate the problem and I think Middlebury would benefit from one," said Stanton.

Two proposals remain under consideration on how best to implement the plan. One proposal involves creating a student organization that would have volunteers run the service. The group would have a constitution and would receive school funding like any other student organization.

SGA officials will also consider a proposal that would leave the administration of the program to an outside organization. Several companies in town would vie for the ability to run the program.

Stanton does not know when the program will begin offering the service, as the SGA must first approve the proposal, but hopes it will occur soon. "We want SafeRides ASAP," Stanton said. "We'd probably vote at the first meeting. There is no concrete timetable though."

Stanton's optimism about the viability of the SafeRides programs was not shared by the administration, which still had concerns. "I haven't seen the most recent version of the SafeRides program so I can't comment specifically on the proposal," wrote Tim Spears, Dean of the College. "I am familiar with the liability concerns that have been raised in the past about the program, and they are hard to ignore."

In addition to his interest in SafeRides, Stanton hopes to facilitate communication between the SGA and the student body. He be-

See Stanton, page 2

ON THE INSIDE

FALL STYLE GUIDE
See what's hot this fall in fashion at Middlebury, page 16

VT HOUSE ELECTIONS
Open state house seat prompts heated local race, page 6

BBC REPORTER AT MIDD
Bilal Sarwary '10, a former journalist for the BBC, enrolls at Midd, page 10

WHERE TO GO?
A guide to the best and worst bathrooms around campus, check out Liebowitz's, page 11

MIDDBRIEFS

BY ANNIE ONISHI

Schines take on new posts as Brainerd faculty heads

Brainerd Commons received two new faculty heads this summer in the form of Robert and Marita Schine. The Schines take over the post from Karl Lindholm, who served as faculty head last year.

The Schines have been affiliated with Middlebury College since 1985 when Robert Schine was named as the first Dana Faculty Fellow in Jewish Studies. He became Dean of the Faculty in 1997 and has served on the College's administration since then. Marita Schine attended Middlebury College to attain a Vermont teaching license and holds degrees in biology and English from the University of Freiburg im Breisgau in Germany.

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz approached the Schines in the spring of 2005 and asked them to take over the faculty head position. "I saw this as a chance to roll up my sleeves and contribute," said Robert Schine. "It is also an opportunity to work with a wider range of students than I encounter through my courses."

The Schines see their appointment as an opportunity to become more involved in the life of the campus, and have specific ideas as to how they would like to lead their commons. "I have a particular interest in supporting the Commons Council in its community service work," said Marita Schine. "I have long-standing involvements in community agencies in the town and county that I hope will be useful to students in Brainerd in community action initiatives."

Their term as faculty heads will last for three years, but may be extended. The Schines will move in to a house on Blinn Lane, opposite from Ross Commons, once construction on the building is complete. The Schines currently live in McKinley House and hope the move will make them more accessible to students. The Schines said they look forward to hosting students and faculty members at an opening celebration when construction on the house is complete.

Staff remove Atwater waffle makers for repairs

Hungry students looking for breakfast at Atwater Dining Hall may have noticed the absence of the Belgian waffle makers from the back counter where they normally reside. The machines, a beloved breakfast institution, are currently in the electrician's shop in the Service Building, awaiting new parts for repairs.

According to Atwater Commons Chef Ian Martin, the machines broke during Language School about seven or eight weeks ago.

"On one the thermostat was broken and on the other the wiring was fried and eroded," said Martin. "I'm not an electrician, but I guess that could be a safety hazard, yes." In addition, both machines had loose joints that created instability when the machine was flipped for waffle cooking.

Jessica Clayton '09, a waffle machine user, ate waffles every day the machines were out last year. "I don't really know what to do with myself on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays," said Clayton.

However, not everyone misses the waffle machines. Martin reported that the responsibility of cleaning up the often messy machines and surrounding areas lies with the servery workers who "wouldn't mind [the machines] being gone." Martin added, "But that's not why [the machines] aren't out."

Clayton thinks that waffle making lessons would be a good idea, as better technique would help the machines last longer and reduce the mess caused by spilled batter and stuck waffles. She said, "I mean people who just don't spray are idiots."

VT Congressional candidates set to debate at Midd

The Rohatyn Center for International Affairs will host a debate about foreign affairs on Sept. 26 between candidates for the Vermont seat in the United States House of Representatives. The debate will occur at 7 p.m. in Mead Chapel and will be moderated by Vermont Public Television's Chris Graff '75.

Participants in the debate will include Martha Rainville, Republican candidate and former Adjutant General of the Vermont National Guard; Peter Welch, Vermont State Senate President Pro Tem and Democratic candidate; Independent candidate and Burlington restaurateur Dennis Morriseau; and Liberty Union candidate Jane Newton.

The Rohatyn Center is co-hosting the event with the Vermont Council on World Affairs (VCWA). VCWA is a non-profit and non-partisan group dedicated to the education of the Vermont public. Through programs and presentations from international delegates, the VCWA spreads awareness about international affairs.

Chandler Koglmeier '09, a political science major, expressed interest in attending the debate.

"I am interested in international affairs, especially American foreign policy," said Koglemeier. "This debate sounds like a great idea, and I think it will be really informative. How often do you get to see a live political debate?"

Koglmeier continued, "I also appreciate the idea of getting exposed to many different political view points, even though I may not agree with all of them."

Stanton outlines new SGA agenda

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

lieves he has created a number of ways in which students may stay in touch with the SGA and offer their suggestions for campus projections, initiatives and suggestions. "I established a blog," Stanton said. "It's not personal but it's a way for each student to have input in the SGA. I want students to come up to me from across campus and say 'I have an idea' and not be afraid to do that."

Education on the fundamentals of the SGA committees and their purposes remains another goal of Stanton's. "I want to increase transparency," Stanton said. "I want Middlebury students to understand some of the committees that they currently don't. We don't want them to be afraid of going before these bodies."

When asked how first-years can get involved in the organization, Stanton said, "Run for Senate. That's the easiest way. If not that, you can get on a subcommittee. Even if they can't run for office, talk to me and let me know what their ideas are."

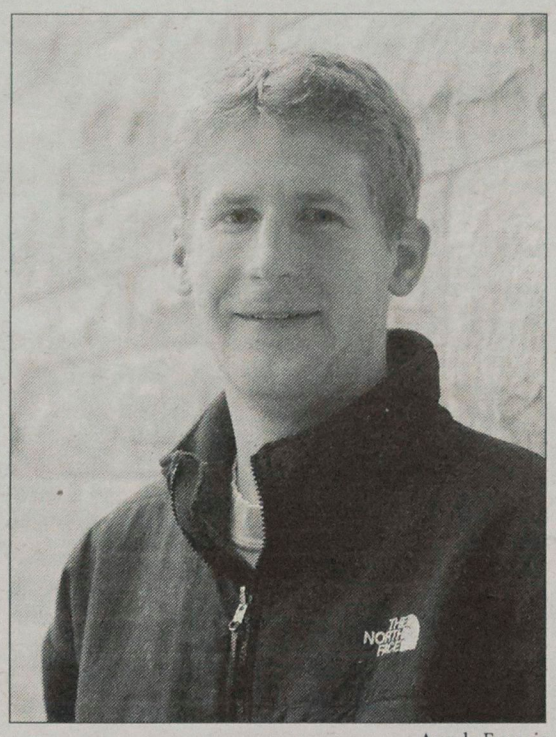
Stanton and members of his staff held a meeting Sept. 17 for candidates interested in running for a position in the SGA Senate. The deadline for students interested in running for Senate to submit their letters of intent is Sept. 21, along with a petition of 25 signatures by Sept. 22. Campaigning formally begins on Friday and each candidate running receives a campaign budget of $100. Elections will take place during a 24-hour online vote Sept. 28-29.

Stanton reiterated campus involvement is vital to the organization's success and effectiveness. "The more students that participate in the SGA, the better job we can do for Middlebury students," Stanton said. "I encourage everyone to get involved with the SGA even if that involvement is not holding some form of office." Stanton believes a more energized student body will prove more influential in college policy-making decisions.

Apathy remains the biggest student problem on campus, according to Stanton. "A lot of students have great ideas but don't see a great way to voice their concerns," he said. "The administrators are good people so my job is to take the view of students and bring it before them. It's only going to be a powerful SGA if students are involved in it."

In an effort to increase school spirit, members of the Senate plan to hold color wars and field days sometime during the fall, though no dates are in place.

Stanton will also work on improving relations in the organization itself and will create a working relationship with administrators. "I'd like the SGA to be more active but I'd also like to see it run more smoothly in the Senate itself," Stanton said. "Working closely with the school is important but I don't want the SGA to become their lapdog. We want a careful, measured relationship with the administration."



Angela Evancie

SGA President Alex Stanton '07 hopes to rally student support for his SafeRides initiative this fall.

College's student-faculty ratio drops

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

would call incremental positions adding to the total number of faculty," Vice President for Academic Affairs Alison Byerly said. "Most of these are positions replacing people who are on leave or people who have left the college."

Middlebury often hires over 20 new teachers a year, though the majority of them fill existing lines or positions vacated when members of the faculty go on leave.

"A lot of faculty go on leave one year out of every six," Dean of the Faculty Sunder Ramaswamy said, adding that once junior faculty get past their review in the third year, they go on leave in the fifth. "When these faculty go on leave you have to replace them."

The FTE provides a way for the College's Educational Affairs Committee to internally count their faculty for workload purposes. A full faculty member teaches five courses during the fall and spring semesters, and a winter term course. A teacher who teaches three classes only counts as 3/6 of an FTE. Of the 36 incoming teachers, only two represent a new incremental position.

The use of the FTE also reflects the College's dedication to flexibility in its ongoing attempt to balance the needs of students.

"All positions belong to the College, not to departments," Ramaswamy said, stressing the need for the power to move teaching resources around. Not only does the use of the FTE assist in filling positions vacated by faculty on leave, but the various departments also have the opportunity to reconfigure how they want to teach. "The teaching curriculum shouldn't be sacrificed because faculty is on leave," he said. Although the total faculty only slightly rose, the move highlights a goal established in the strategic plan of adding 25 FTE's over the next 10 years.

"The College has recognized the need for sufficient faculty resources to both accomplish what we want to accomplish in the curriculum, and to ensure the kind of close student-faculty interaction that is the hallmark of a Middlebury education," Byerly said.

But while the use of the FTE aids internal planning purposes, Middlebury no longer includes it when calculating its student to faculty ratio, a statistic largely responsible for Middlebury's rise in the recent *U.S.News and World Report* "America's Best Colleges" ranking of the country's top liberal arts colleges. The College began using a methodology for counting faculty called the Common Data Set, so as to align its student to faculty ratio with the other elite colleges that have also begun using the CDC.

"It's more of a reporting change than it is an actual change," Brodigan said, "but now that we know that everyone reports this way, we'll continue to report this way."

Whereas Middlebury previously used its own internal count, the FTE, when submitting a calculation to the U.S. News, it began to use the CDC calculation this year. The new methodology for counting teachers considers anyone teaching 50 percent or more of a normal course load to be a full teacher. Though Middlebury has only 223 1/3 total faculty this year under the FTE system, the CDC produces a figure of 269 full teachers.

Thus, Middlebury would have had a student to faculty ratio of 10.7 to 1 under the previous system, but the CDC technique generates a ratio of 8.9 to 1. The new ratio helped the College to go from 28th in that category to 11th. In adopting the CDC's prescribed equation for counting faculty, Middlebury can more easily compare itself to other elite institutions.

"If we want to make comparisons, we have to compare apples to apples," Secretary of the College and Dean of Planning John Emerson said. "So we have to report numbers that they ask for in the CDC."

The current standard for excellence among Middlebury's peers is a student to faculty ratio of 8 to 1, and the elite group consists of Amherst College, Williams College, Bryn Mawr College, Haverford College and Swarthmore College. The gradual increase in faculty resources over an extended period of time "would bring us in line with those that have the best student to faculty ratio," Emerson said. "Our logic is that what we have to offer that makes Midd a better college than even some of the Ivies is the intensity of faculty involvement directly with students."

Midd's New Faculty Hires

2 teachers coming into new positions

9 teachers replacing faculty on leave

10 teachers replacing faculty who have left the College two to three years due to retirement, taking another position or passing away

4 teachers hired into vacated term positions

2 FTEs cover reductions for committee service

A year-by-year look at the Middlebury faculty

YEAR	New Faculty	Teach Asst.	Total FTE
2006-07	28	8	223 1/3
2005-06	47	7	220 1/2
2004-05	32	2	209 1/3
2003-04	29	4	208 1/4
2002-03	29	3	204

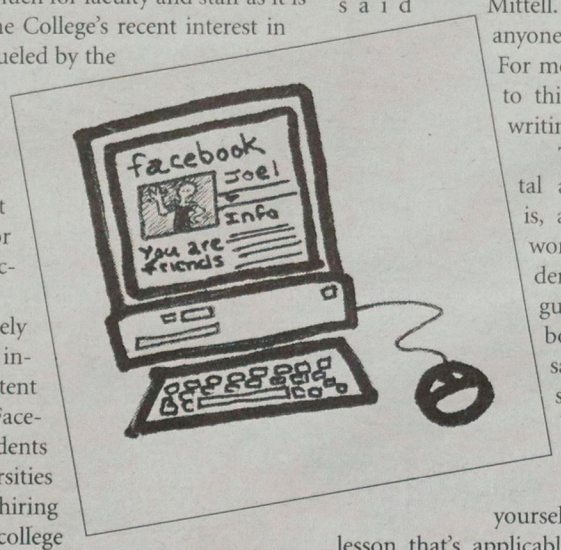
Deans question Facebook's true privacy

Students who post indiscriminantly at increased risk

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

meant, Spears said, to keep the community abreast of the potential pitfalls of the website.

Spears maintained that though Facebook is available as much for faculty and staff as it is for students, the College's recent interest in the website is fueled by the desire to keep students informed. "We're not interested in going out and trolling for possible infractions," he said.



In widely documented instances, content posted on Facebook by students at other universities has influenced hiring decisions after college or resulted in disciplinary actions. Athletes have been disciplined for posting inappropriate photographs, students have been ejected from dormitories for discussing underage drinking and a freshman at the University of Oklahoma was investigated by the Secret Service last fall for posting a comment reading, "We could all donate a dollar and raise millions of dollars to hire an assassin to kill the president and replace him with a monkey."

In light of such incidents, a page linked from the Dean of Student Affairs' website encourages students to "think carefully" about the information they choose to publish on the website. "Use common sense when publishing anything on the Internet or visiting other web sites," reads the colloquial website, "and don't assume that everyone you will meet on the web is a rational, law-abiding citizen who has your best interests at heart."

Facebook, however, is not without its benefits, stressed Jason Mittell, assistant professor of American Studies and Film and Media Culture. Mittell, himself a registered Facebook user, was quick to address the emerging opportunities that technologies like Facebook afford users.

"I was just sending a message to a former student," he said during an interview with The Middlebury Campus. And though Mittell does not use the site "daily or even weekly," he believes Facebook presents an important networking tool, one worth utilizing and exploring. "Especially teaching in Film and Media Culture, networking is so important," he said. "This is where people network now, on Facebook or MySpace or these types of pages."

Mittell, for example, has utilized Facebook to make contact with Middlebury alumni — a contact that provided, in one instance, a potential internship for a current student.

Mittell, who describes himself as "one of the more wired faculty members," uses blogs, wikis and the College's Segue network commonly in his courses — and Facebook and its inherent questions of privacy and the Internet are just one facet of the wired classroom common at the College.

"For a lot of us who teach with technology, a great thing is that students feel like what they are creating is not just for a closed classroom," said Mittell. "They post it online and anyone could stumble across it. For me, that means they have to think about what they're writing in a different way."

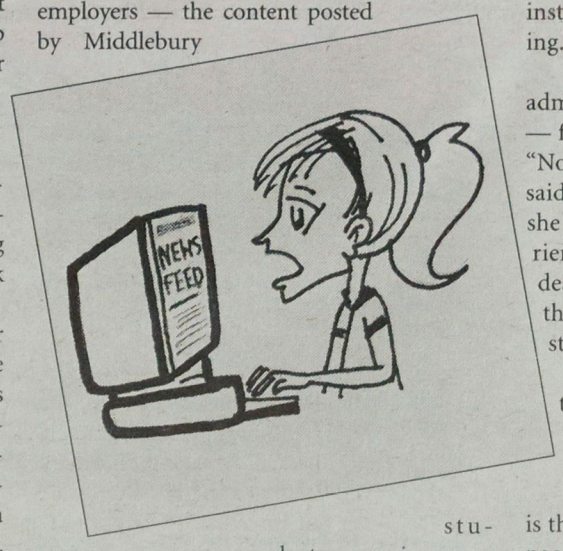
This awareness of digital and physical identities is, according to Mittell, a worthwhile lesson for students. "I like the College's guideline's [for Facebook]," he said. "It's not saying, 'don't use this stuff.' It's saying, 'use it, but think about it and think about what it means to represent yourself.' It's a really good lesson that's applicable beyond just this one website."

Spears, like Mittell, acknowledged that the site has "immense possibilities and great potential."

"We don't want students to think we're coming down on Facebook," said Spears.

Spears indicated that Facebook is a tool with great forward qualities — one that should be used carefully. The danger lies in the illusion of control that the site projects. "Facebook has the illusion of being self-contained … and therefore insulated from scrutiny," said Spears.

Given the site's availability to faculty and staff — as well as technology-savvy potential employers — the content posted by Middlebury

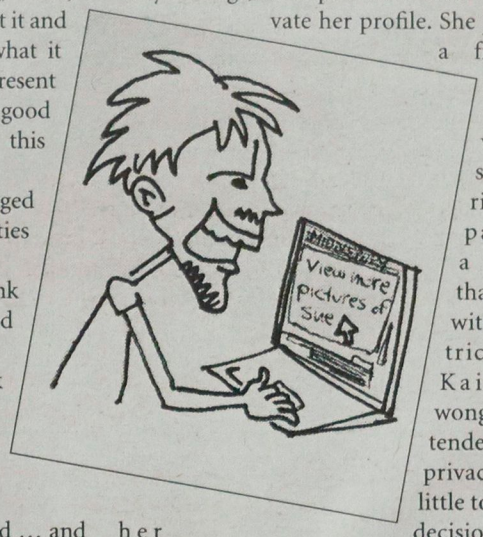


students remains surprisingly questionable. Popular groups include "If you can get into this club, cheers, welcome to homebase" — a group for purportedly enabling sexual encounters that counts over 200 Middlebury students as members — and "Middlebury Drinkers." Individual profiles often include explicit references to sex, drugs and alcohol, as well questionable photographs.

"I'm not that interested in looking at my current students or other students on campus," said Mittell. But the professor, after stumbling upon profiles, admitted being a "little uncomfortable with what [students] are putting up."

Considering the amount of press the website has achieved, however, some administrators hope that students are more savvy within the social networking circle. "I think there has been so much press about this, that students are starting to realize that posting a photo of them doing something 'risqué' as an undergraduate, may not be something that they feel the same way about when they are out of school," said Hanson.

For Molley Kaiyoorawongs '09 the changing face of Facebook prompted a more drastic response. Rather than deleting embarrassing photographs or tweaking her privacy settings, the sophomore chose to deactivate her profile. She joined as a freshman. Facebook was, she said, "a rite of passage," a privilege that came with matriculation. Kaiyoorawongs contended that privacy had little to do with her decision to delete her account, but rather that changes in the culture of the site — the decision to include high school students, for instance — took the fun out of "savvy stalking."



On life after Facebook, Kaiyoorawongs admits that she went through withdrawal — for a few hours after deactivating, that is. "Now I feel so much more wholesome," she said. "I, ironically, feel more social." Facebook, she said, is a central part of "the college experience," but she admitted she wasted a good deal of time on the website, and contended that in the end, Facebook was a poor substitute for genuine social interaction.

"The original motive of keeping in touch with high school pals is dumb," she said. "If people say that's why they don't deactivate, it's an excuse and it's a weak one. The fact of the matter is, if Facebook is the only way you keep in touch with those people, then you don't really have much of a relationship anyway."

Facebook, since its February 2004 launch, has grown from a collection of elite university networks to become the seventh-most trafficked website and the number one photo-sharing site on the web. The site, over nine million users strong, now claims more than 40,000 regional, work, college and high school networks. At time of press, the Middlebury network included 4,752 individuals.

www.middleburycampus.com

all new site | online october 2006

OVERSEAS BRIEFING

By Jessica Weiss

URUGUAY — After a brief hour of sleep my alarm sounds *Yankee Doodle*. Just about sunset. Perfect. Time to wake up. My tired body aches as I fall out of my bed onto the cold wood floor. I carefully calculate: three pair of underwear, one pair of pants, and then I throw a random assortment of articles into my $3.00 backpack that I bought from a street vendor the other day. A quick shower and a few hours later laughter fills the living room.

Thursday night and the girls are deep into their gossip. The Spanish rolls off their tongues with such speed and fluidity that I rely on my class of *medio y medio* to try to slow it down, but the speech and time continue.

I look at the clock on the wall, focusing on the fuzzy numbers. 23:15. I run to my room and grab my overstuffed, knockoff backpack. I squeeze my passport and ticket into my pocket as I throw my belongings over my shoulder. Running out the door of my apartment I can hear the laughter fade into a warm winter night in Montevideo.

I ride shotgun in the taxi across the city to the bus terminal where four Americans and a five hour ride await me. We climb aboard a bus headed northwest to Paysandú, the third largest city in Uruguay, but we could be on our way to Peru as nobody cares enough to check the ticket. It is past midnight and for the first few minutes we fill the otherwise silent bus with laughter and frantic exchanges of Spanish stories from the two months since orientation, the excitement elevated by *sueño* and the lasting effects of the champagne and white wine concoction. In the darkness we become silent as the countryside passes us by. The cows are asleep, but my day is not half over.

We reach the terminal in Paysandú and fighting to keep our eyes open find a taxi to guide us through the dark and unfamiliar streets.

Five of us, with all of our belongings and the driver stuff into a car reminiscent of the metal toys my brother used to play with. A weird mixture of Latin pop, salsa and Tom Petty is drowned out by our laughter.

As we head for the border our body heat fogs up the windows. But the temperature is warm, and we roll down the windows to realize that we have headed into a fog so dense that we brace ourselves for a crash or the appearance of the headless horseman.

No headless horseman but a rather portly customs agent reluctant to put down his *mate* greets us from the fog. We present our passports but some lack the immigration form that was given to us two months ago. In the most authoritative voice possible he says he can't let us into Argentina. We turn pale and burst into laughter. Funny joke at 5 o'clock in the morning.

After convincing him that we are not terrorists and almost an hour later we reach Colón, Argentina. The final destination. We are just in time to watch the colorful progression of the sunrise and its reflection in el Río Uruguay. I take it in and prepare to start my day again. For the next few days I will take a break from my backwards Uruguayan world, because here, the day starts at sunrise.

COLLEGE SHORTS

BY ZAMIR AHMED

Man opens fire on Montreal campus

One person was killed and 20 others were wounded after a 25-year-old man opened fire on the campus of Dawson College in downtown Montreal on September 13. The gunman later shot himself in the head after a shootout with police.

Witnesses say that Kimveer Gill, wearing a trench coat and carrying a semiautomatic rifle and two other guns, started firing at students near an entrance to a building on campus without provocation at 12:41 p.m. After police responded to the initial attack, Gill entered the building and continued to shoot randomly as he made his way to a crowded cafeteria. Police followed Gill inside the building and wounded him in the arm before he turned the gun on himself.

Initial reports said that there were multiple shooters on campus, leading police to block off the 12-acre college and shut down a nearby major subway line in an effort to prevent an escape. Police searched the college door-to-door but believe Gill acted alone.

There appears to be no motive for the shooting but Montreal police do not believe there was any racist or terrorist connection to the attack. Investigators were looking into disturbing pictures and writings Gill had posted on a Web site called "vampirefreaks.com," including a number of posts made just hours before the shooting. Gill was not a student or former student of Dawson College and did not have a criminal record.

Seven of the wounded remain in area hospitals, including two who are in critical condition. The college, with an enrollment of 10,000 students, reopened on Monday but many students were reluctant to go back because of stress and anxiety. Montreal hospitals have received a large number of phone calls since the shooting by people seeking psychiatric support to cope with the trauma while drop-in centers have been opened near the college for people looking help.

— CNN.com and *The New York Times*

Women's college to admit men in 2007

In a move that has drawn the ire of faculty, students and alumnae, trustees at Randolph-Macon Women's College have voted to admit male students to the college for the first time starting in Fall 2007. The trustees hope that the move will help the college stabilize its financial struggles after years of declining enrollment.

Officials at the Lynchburg, Va. college first proposed the idea last month, igniting agitation and anger among the student body and alumnae. Students organized campus protests to demonstrate against the measure while others created online petitions to submit to the administration. One alumnae group hired a lawyer to use legal concerns to dissuade the decision.

On September 9, in front of 400 jeering students and alumnae, the college's trustees president announced that the board, in a 25-2 vote, had decided to become coeducational for the first time in its 115-year history.

College officials said the move was necessary because enrollment this fall is only 700 students, down from almost 900 in the 1960s. With enrollment falling, the college has had to dip into its $140 million endowment for operations.

According to the Women's College Coalition, only 60 women's colleges remain across the United States, down from nearly 300 in the 1960s.

The college will change its name before going coed as there is already a Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, Va., which is a former men's school.

— CNN.com

Committee on social life tackles challenges

By Katie Hylas
Staff Writer

Five months after convening, Middlebury's Social Life Task Force — a student-run group billed as a potential solution to last year's frustration at organized social life on campus — has yet to produce any substantive recommendations. Plagued by sporadic student participation, the task force faces the challenge of writing a proposal detailing substantive changes by mid-year.

Originally formed by Dean of the College Tim Spears and Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson to identify and address student social concerns on campus, the task force was turned over to student initiative after several meetings. "Students have the creativity, the ideas and the energy to change social life," said Hanson at the time. "We started the task force in order to facilitate their efforts."

At the group's first meeting in late March, students echoed popular campus-wide concern over the "guest list" rule, an exclusive security measure at social house parties implemented after Middlebury's new liquor inspector renewed the enforcement of Vermont state liquor laws. Following the meeting, task force member Marco Casas '07 said that one of the group's primary goals would be to ensure "that every weekend there will be a cool activity for them to engage in without being harassed by the Middlebury Police."

After losing several student members to overseas study programs, however, the remaining six participants – all seniors – spent their first fall semester meeting on Tuesday reorienting themselves to the task ahead. The group's goal is to produce by mid-year a written report summarizing student concerns with campus social life and several proposed solutions; in particular, concrete alternatives to the off-campus parties and dorm-room drinking that now substitute for open social house events.

The group also met at the time with a representative of the Middlebury Police Department to discuss concerns about the relationship between students and the police, and also to figure out what exactly is and is not legal for students to do. In addition, members spoke with Ricardo Jordan, a Tufts University graduate student who organizes the Tufts Events Staff, about alternatives for alcohol enforcement at student parties that would not involve Public Safety officers or the police. The group discussed the possibility of a Segue site where students could post their concerns about the social life on campus.

With a new semester underway, task force members say they are confident that the group can contribute positively to changing the Middlebury social scene. "The task force is making progress on putting together a written report of issues pertaining to social life on campus and improvements that we think can be made," said student members Sam Temes '07. "We are discussing social spaces available on campus, service of alcohol and party hosting, and non-alcohol oriented social events." Temes also said that he was interested in re-examining how the college segregates spaces for academic and social use.

Many students have expressed concern that newly-enforced alcohol laws have inadvertently encouraged students to engage in more dangerous activities, like over-consumption of alcohol behind closed doors. In addition, some worry that the off-campus parties that have grown as a means of avoiding attention from Public Safety have increased the incidence of drunk driving. Said Nick Lefeber '08, "The more difficult drinking on campus becomes, the more kids will go off campus and then have to drive home."

In the wake of several incidents last year, including a number in which town police intercepted and breathalyzed students returning to their residences from off-campus parties, many underage students say they interacting with Public Safety or the police frustrating. Said Jack Britton '08, "We're so close to Canada, we might as well just pretend we're in Canada and lower the minimum drinking age on campus."

Despite the group's optimistic goals in tackling these concerns, however, its relative obscurity on campus has hindered its efforts to involve students in bringing about change. The task force does not, for instance, have a page on the Middlebury Web site, and there is no official avenue through which to contact its members. For an interested student, the only way to find the task force is to contact the offices of Hanson or Spears directly.

Ilhan Kim

Renewed vigilance on the part of Middlebury's liquor inspector has put pressure on Public Safety to enforce regulations against underage drinking on campus.

public safety log

SEPTEMBER 1, 2006 TO SEPTEMBER 18, 2006

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
9/5/06	Unknown	Theft	Clothes	Hadley	Referred to Language School Dean
9/7/06	7:10 p.m.	Vandalism	Broken Window	82 Adirondack View	Referred to Facilities Management
9/9/06	11:05 p.m.	Fireworks	Fireworks	Kelly	Referred to Commons Dean
9/9/06	1:00 p.m.	Theft	Backpack	Atwater Dining Hall	Open
9/9/06	1:00 p.m.	Theft	Items	Atwater Dining Hall	Open
9/9/06	1:00 p.m.	Theft	Purse	Atwater Dining Hall	Open
9/9/06	11:18 p.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	McCullough	Referred to Commons Dean
9/10/06	5:20 p.m.	Vandalism	License Plate	106 S. Main Garage	Open
9/10/06	1:20 p.m.	Theft	Purse	Atwater Dining Hall	Open
9/10/06	10:00 a.m.	Theft	ID Card	Hadley	Open
9/10/06	11:30 p.m.	Noise	Noise	Jewett	Case Closed
9/11/06	Unknown	Vandalism	Graffiti	Athletic Field Area	Open
9/13/06	11:30 a.m.	Theft	Purse	FIC	Open
9/16/06	12:22 a.m.	Noise	Noise	51 Franklin	Case Closed
9/18/06	12:06 a.m.	Noise	Noise	LaForce	Referred to Commons Dean

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 60 alcohol violations between Sept. 1 and Sept. 18, including 13 in R Lot on Saturday, Sept. 16.

College scores high-profile booking with Roberts

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Liebowitz wrote that the event could model the recommended weekly college-wide convocations outlined last May in the College's strategic plan.

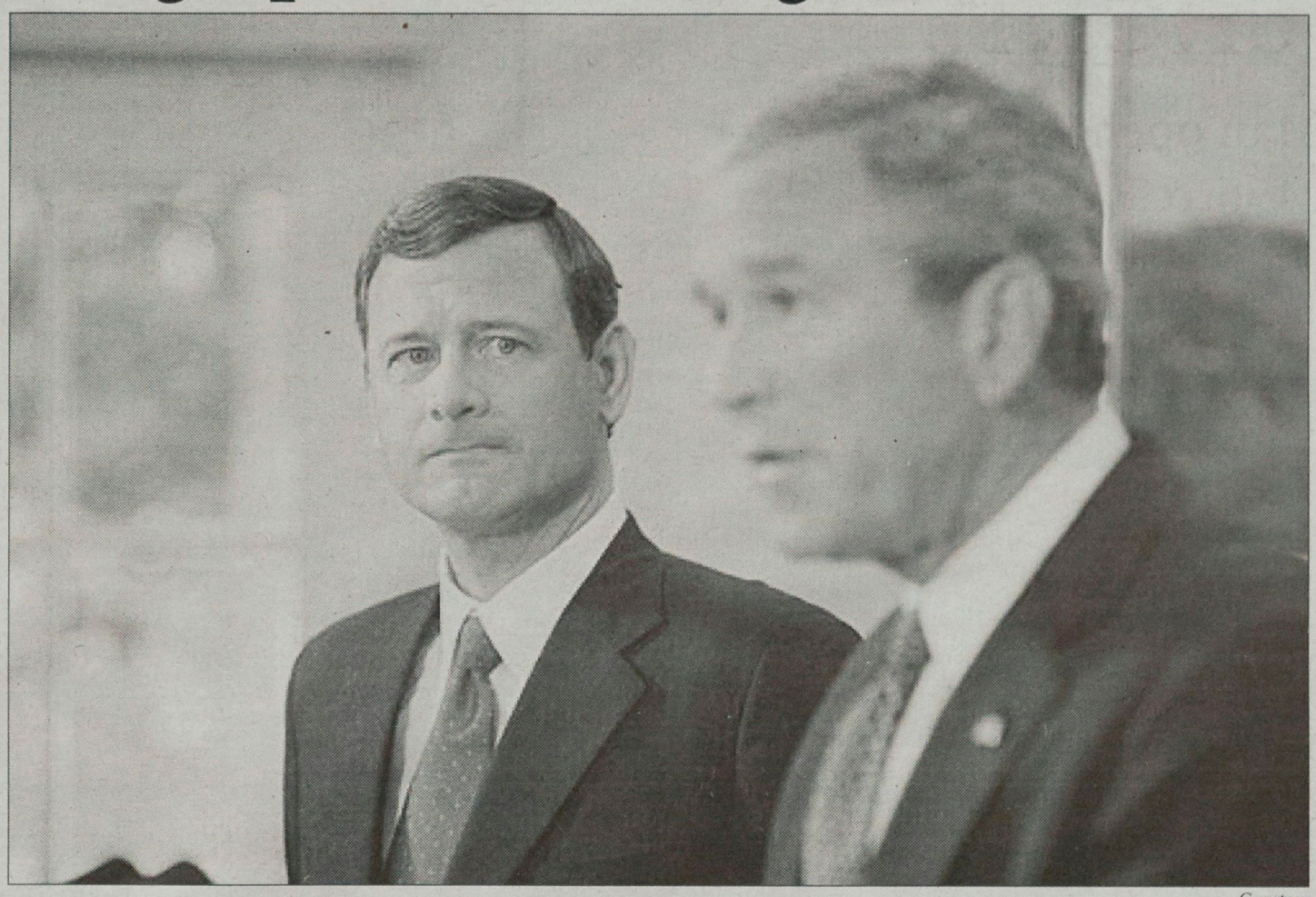
The plan's recommendation calls for an all-community convocation on the first week of each month with a "major outside speaker" who would introduce a topic for discussion. The second week would follow-up with Commons-based discussions to further debate the topic, followed by the third week with a faculty, staff or student speaker or panel that could address the topic in another all-community event. The fourth week, according to the plan, would remain open for reflection on the topic in small group settings.

"While we work to get a convocation series in place, there is no reason why this particular event could not serve as the foundation for community-wide discussions in a number of venues, from the Commons, to student-led organizations, to dorm hall discussions," wrote Liebowitz.

Past campus appearances by prominent conservatives have sparked protests by students and community members, including controversial visits by former White House Press Secretary Ari Fleischer '82 in the fall of 2002 and former New York City Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani in the spring of 2005.

Stefan Claypool '09, the College Republican's other co-president, wrote that he was "thrilled" about the event but did expect some student protests.

"Seeing as how Chief Justice Roberts is an appointee of President Bush, towards whom many [Middlebury] students are openly hostile, I do expect some form of protest from the radical liberal elements of the student body," wrote Claypool.



Courtesy

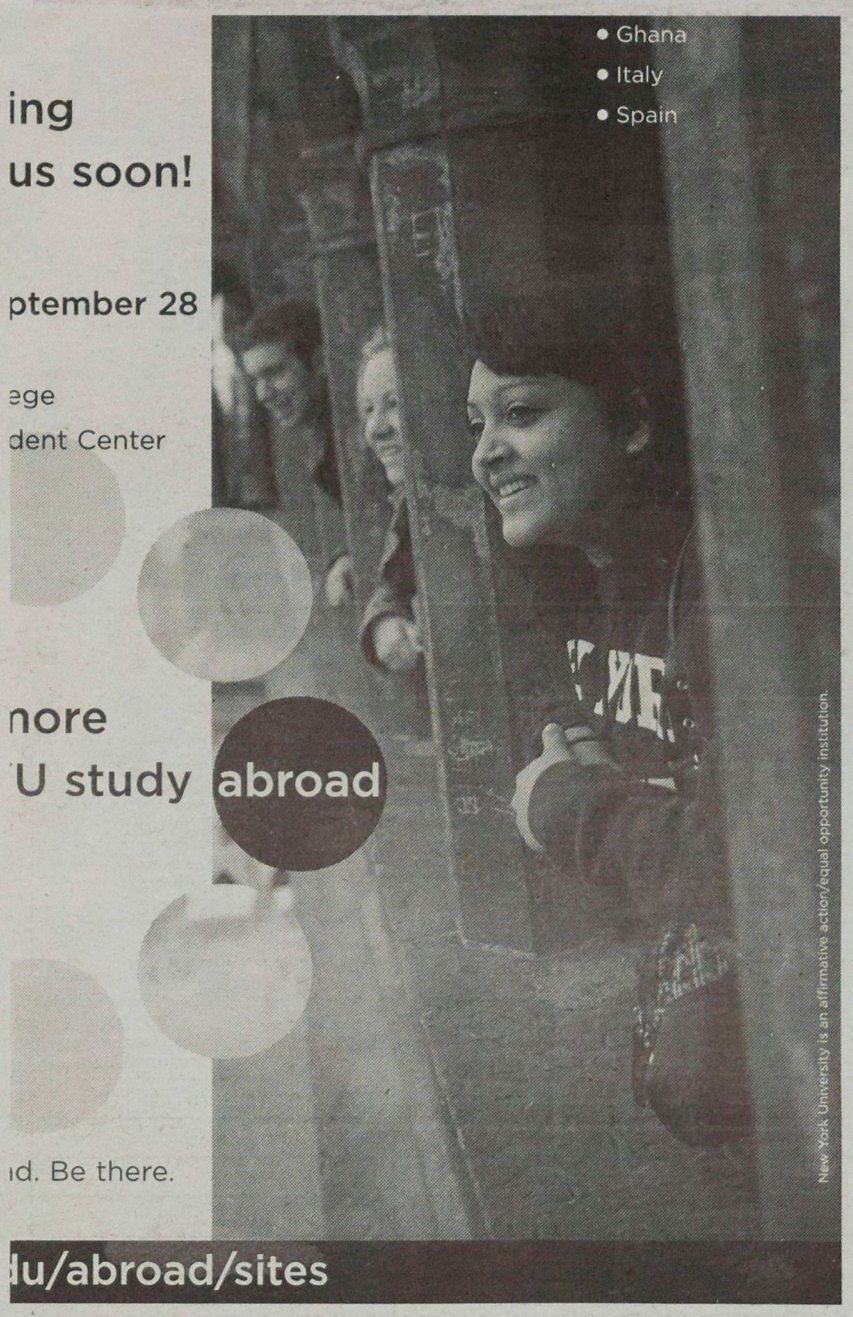
Chief Justice John Roberts, a recent Supreme Court appointee of President George W. Bush, is expected to draw a large crowd when he speaks in Mead Chapel on October 24 despite discrepancies between his political leanings and those of many Middlebury students.

Roberts' visit will mark the second by a U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice to the Middlebury campus. The late Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, Roberts' predecessor, gave a Fulton lecture in 1998.

Roberts was confirmed as the 17th Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court on Sept. 29, 2005. As a lawyer the Buffalo, N.Y.-native had argued dozens of cases before the Court and been sworn in as a justice on the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals in 2003.

Roberts received his bachelor's degree in only three years at Harvard College in 1976, and his degree in law from Harvard Law School in 1979.

The John Hamilton Fulton Lecture in the Liberal Arts was established at Middlebury College in 1966 by an emeritus member of the College Board of Trustees. Previous Fulton lecturers have included James A. Baker, III, Wynton Marsalis and Elie Wiesel.



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localnews 10

6
VERMONT POLITICS
MEET THE HOUSE CANDIDATES AND THE POLICIES THEY PROMOTE

7
SUMMER SLUMP
LOCAL ECONOMY SUFFERS FROM POOR WEATHER AND EXPENSIVE GAS

Open seat sparks a heated House race

By Andrea Glaessner
Local News Editor

Autumn is just around the corner, and this year, Americans may be witnessing more than the usual turning of the leaves on Capitol Hill. With Bush's approval ratings dipping to a 31 percent in May, things seem promising for Democratic candidates across the country. Though the White House will not receive new tenants until the next presidential election, still two years away, the other house in Washington, The House of Representatives, is likely to see some new faces, creating a new composition of leadership in the country's legislative body, and possibly paving the way for big changes in the current political situation.

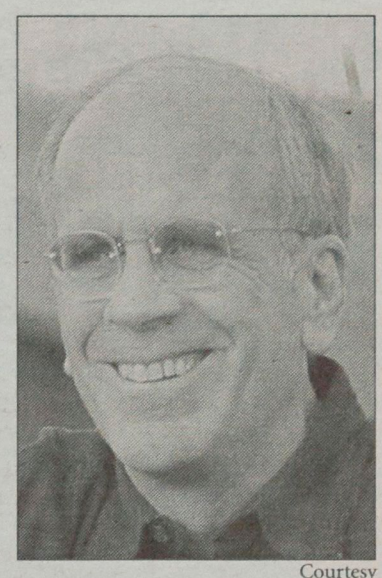
For the Democrats, who are hoping to reclaim a majority in the House, every seat counts this year, especially the open ones in which an incumbent is not seeking re-election. With Rep. Bernie Sanders (D) stepping out of the race in order to compete with Rich Tarrant (R) for the empty seat Sen. Jim Jeffords (I) left behind in the Senate, the one area code state of Vermont now has one empty seat in Congress. As such, the Green Mountain State is set to play a leading role in this year's congressional election drama.

Vermont is sure to give a thrilling performance. The drama will unfold for Middlebury residents to watch on Tuesday, Sept. 26, when the four candidates including Burlington restaurateur Dennis Morriseau (I), Liberty Union candidate Jane Newton, former Adjutant General of the Vermont National Guard Martha Rainville (R) and Vermont State Senate President Pro Tem Peter Welch (D), will hash out their differences in a debate hosted by Chris Graff, host of Vermont Public Television's "Vermont This Week," former Vermont bureau chief for the Associated Press, and a 1975 Middlebury College graduate and sponsored by the Rohatyn Center for International Affairs at Middlebury College and the Vermont Council on World Affairs.

Of the four candidates, Welch and Rainville currently lead the race in a neck and neck battle for the coveted open seat. The long-time Democratic Vermont State Senator is holding off his Republican opponent by a mere 3 percentage points. Looking at the facts, the narrow gap between the candidates seem inexplicable. Welch has both political experience and the large Democratic presence in Vermont on his side. But Rainville has her savvy campaign style that sidesteps controversial issues and identifies herself as the always popular "moderate" Republican to deliver her success thus far.

And who can argue with that? According to Associate Professor of Political Science Matt Dickinson, "The population in Vermont has been shifting toward Democratic in recent years. So if you run as a Republican, you have to run as a 'Vermont Republican,' which is somewhat more moderate. Rainville is making it quite clear that she will be an independent voice, or the Jim Jeffords sort of Republican."

It has been Rainville's moderate Republican stances, however, that have made it difficult for her to articulate clear stances on some of the most important policy issues this election year. Instead, Rainville has focused her message on reforming the political climate in Washington, offering solutions such as "The Clean Campaign Pledge" – a promise to discourage negative campaign practices such as excessive spending and slandering opponents because, according to Rainville's campaign website, "changing the tone in Washington begins with clean campaigns at home.



Courtesy

Political opponents Martha Rainville (R) and Peter Welch (D) both seek to fill the House seat recently vacated by Rep. Bernie Sanders.

This pledge, along with other promises to reform congress and its proceedings form Rainville's most definitive and articulate policies. Rainville campaign communications director Brenden McKenna explained, "Changing the way business is done in Washington so people of both parties can sit down and make real progress on difficult issues that face country. Especially with an ethics reform bill which provides a foundation for tackling the other very important issues like national security and energy stability, including getting away from fossil fuels entirely to reduce pollution and global warming."

In contrast to Rainville's conciliatory and hopeful plan to reform Congress, Welch's "The Six Pillars for Change" plan is comprehensive and, more importantly, offers direct solutions to real problems that threaten Americans. The Six Pillars are, according to Welch's campaign website, "to increase economic security, to establish a plan in Iraq that will bring our troops home, to improve our national security, to commit ourselves to the goals of energy independence and combating global warming, to fight for Vermont jobs and to restore fiscal responsiblity in Washington."

In a phone interview, Welch's communication director, Andrew Savage '03.5, summed up these points, saying "The number one issue is new leadership [which means] changing the balance of power in congress. We need to end the failed policies. Also, aggressively addressing global warming, health care, and getting troops out of Iraq are important." Savage also mentioned that Welch planned to work towards replenishing the government's student aid fund that the Bush administration earlier cut by a historic $11 billion in order to give America's wealthiest citizens another large tax cut.

Welch's stances on policy issues have been cultivated by a long career in electoral politics that began in 1980 when he was the second Dem-

See Rainville, page 7

New stogie shop lights up downtown Middlebury

By Kasie Sherman
Staff Writer

If you are not a tobacco connoisseur, never fear, Middlebury's newest store, The Emporium: Tobacco and Gift Shop, is anything but intimidating. Alongside high-quality cigars and cigarettes, the store sells the work of local artisans and the helpful staff is available to offer suggestions and explanations for any questions customers may have. The shop, located in the retail area between the Middlebury Market and Café and the Blossom Basket floral shop, is owned by James Stone and Stacey Towle. Stone and Towle are also the proprietors of two other Emporiums (in Vergennes and Rutland) and of Vergennes' Café 206. Middlebury's Emporium opened on June 15, but had been operating in a space near Middlebury's courthouse until its building was bought by Middlebury College.

Cigar choices at The Emporium cover a spectrum of flavors, strengths and prices, and clove cigarettes complement the selection of American Spirit cigarettes and Nat Sherman varieties available. According to Logan LeCompte, son of the owners and an Emporium employee, the difference between these products and those available at a convenience store or gas station is the additive-free tobacco and the higher level of satisfaction that such tobacco grants. Nat Sherman MCDs are one of the most popular products available, and are highly regarded by those with a taste for tobacco.

The Emporium prides itself on the wide variety of clientele it serves, and is stocked with merchandise to satisfy all inclinations and interests. The back of the store is filled with hand-blown water pipes, glass spoons and high-quality hookahs. The store imports the hookah products from Egypt and India, and all of the glass pieces are locally produced and then hand-selected for sale by the store's owners. The spoons are beautifully designed and artfully sculpted, rivaling the standards set by any Burlington shop. The Vergennes Emporium has offered glass-blowing demonstrations in the past, and LeCompte hopes to see the same event take place here in Middlebury — providing an opportunity to see art created, and also to have custom pieces made before the customers' eyes.

In addition to those works, the Emporium displays hand-blown glass jewelry, vibrantly ranging from pendants to bracelets. The glasswork display is surrounded by clay beads, hemp jewelry and colorful hacky sacks for those looking for a more impact-friendly purchase. On the front counter one can find incense imported from India, sterling flasks, tapestries and high-quality cigar cutters and lighters. Especially appealing to the discerning customer is the specialty carved-rock and wooden spoons available for purchase. Acrylic water pipes are also an uncommon commodity, but popular for cleaning and their reduced likelihood of breakage.

Chris Heinrich

The new tobacco shop offers high quality cigars and hookahs for sale.

In addition to their comprehensive in-house selection, the Emporium also offers "a vast variety of resources to find products that people may not expect to be able to find here in Middlebury," according to LeCompte. For all customers who may have found a favorite product while traveling abroad or domestically, the Emporium has connections with wholesalers worldwide that may be able to connect a customer to a rare find. Better still, for those who have yet to find a favorite product, the Emporium is the place to discover it.

The Emporium Tobacco and Gift Shop, open Tuesday-Saturday 11am-6pm.

Local businesses happy to see foliage, and students

By Dina Magaril
Local News Editor

The outdoor seating may have been full at Tully and Marie's this past weekend and students may have made reservations at their favorite eateries, but the consumer attitude in Middlebury was very different just a few months earlier. While fall foliage season is famed here in photogenic Vermont, summer "business was good but it could always be better," is a saying many local establishments have adopted as their mantra after the decline in business this past summer.

The foliage season is particularly busy for the restaurant industry as tourists rush in from Massachusetts, New Jersey and sometimes as far as Canada to see the famous Vermont autumn. But, the summer tourist rush has always been one that local businesses have counted on. Although tourists who are drawn to Vermont in the summer often choose to stay in Burlington overlooking the shores of Lake Champlain, even businesses in Burlington have felt the reverberations of the current lull.

While Tara Vaughn-Hughes, the owner of the Eat Good Food Grill Bar and Deli that opened in Middlebury in February of 2005 explained,"We don't really have a past history [so] it's hard to know [how to make a comparison]." Her restaurant's floor manager Melissa D'Amico reported that, "Talking to a lot of the surrounding restaurants it seems like everyone's numbers were cut in half." Vaughn-Hughes seconded this sentiment when she considered that her other business — a Vergennes restaurant similar to Eat Good Food — "was not as good as we had hoped it would be." These sentiments echoed throughout the community, and among local merchants — many of whom have been in business in Middlebury longer than Vaughn-Hughes' new restaurant. They have their own suspicions about the causes of this summer's slump.

Jeff Costello, the general manager at the Middlebury Inn pointed to the impact weather has on the travel industry as one cause of the drop in consumer sales he noticed this summer. He, at least partially, attributes the lack of tourists in Middlebury this summer to heavy rainfall in June. "If it's raining in Boston and it's raining in Vermont, then why would people go to Vermont?" he said. The peak season for business at the Inn ranges from October to July, said Costello, who saw a drop in business this past June because of bad weather. August, however, proved sunnier this year and tourism was "higher than usual" during that month as the Inn saw more walk-ins than usual.

Karen Rowland, the office manager at Fire and Ice pinpointed yet another potential cause of the decline in business in Middlebury that she, too, noticed. "The high price of gas was really a concern for some of our customers," said Rowland, explaining why many regular customers have stayed away. "Many of [them] come from far away distances and now, instead of coming once a week they come once a month," she said.

Eating out used to be the norm, and now it has become a luxury.
—Melissa D'Amico

Eat Good Food's D'Amico spoke about the domino effect caused by higher gas costs. "People spend more money on gas so they have less money for other things. Eating out used to be the norm and now it has now become a luxury." And, because of such high gas prices, Vaughn-Hughes said, a compound effect is taking place, causing food vendors to include surcharges on deliveries made to the restaurant because of the extra dollars they spent for their own gas charges.

One of the manager's at Mr. Up's said she was concerned that fewer tour buses than usual were stopping at her establishment. Furthermore, she believed that the declining pool of customers dining out was divided by the growing competition among new eateries in Middlebury — not excluding Eat Good Food. When asked how Mister Ups was trying to bring in more customers the manager interviewed said, "by the time [we] realized business was going down there was nothing we could do about it. We had already hired new staff so we just had to deal with it."

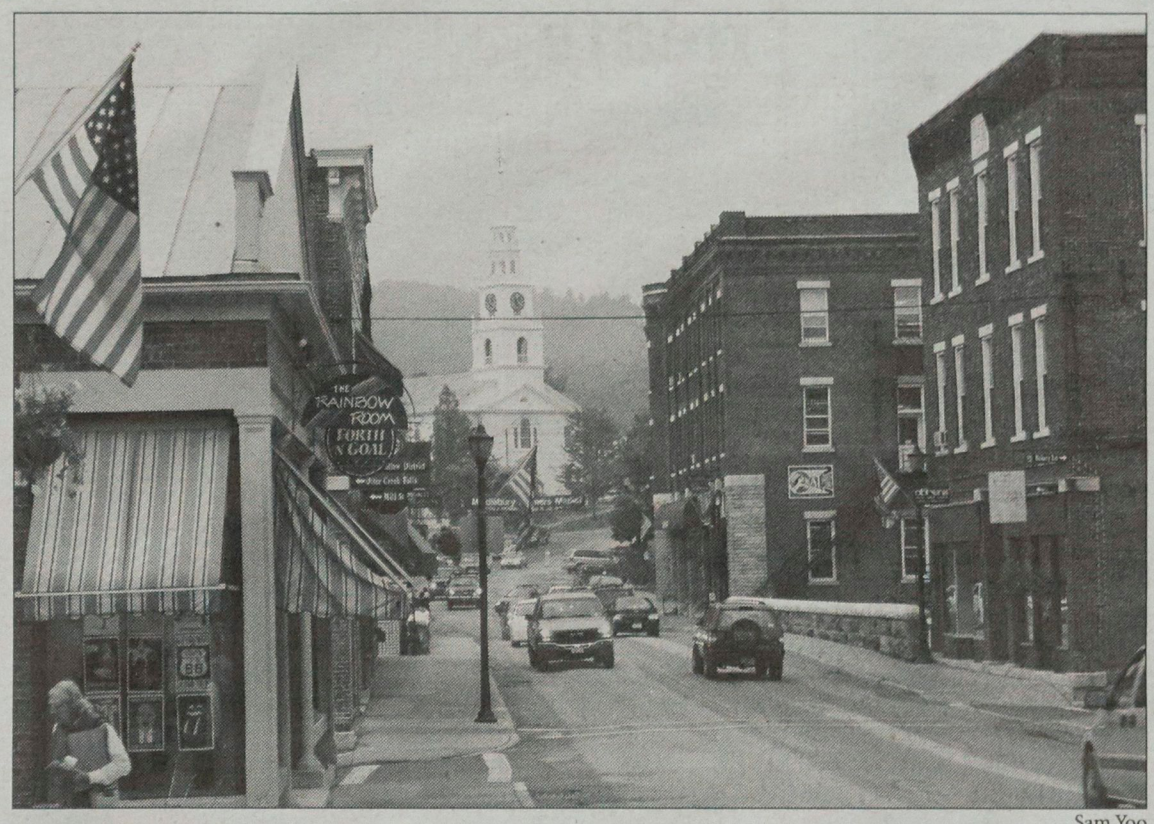
Though bad weather and the price of gas were issues specific to the decline of business this past summer, the simple fact that Middlebury loses customers when students return home for the summer is an important factor. "I don't think businesses realize how dependent they are on the college," said D'Amico, who said business immediately went down during the days following graduation. She cited parent's weekends at the College as times when business is sure to soar, but added that the language school customers and tourists usually balance out the loss.

But it's not just the students at Middlebury who contribute to the local business economy. Lorri Sperry, owner of The Rainbow Room, does not see the College as separate from the larger Middlebury community and is quick to point out that families of students, faculty and staff all help her numbers go up. In fact, Sperry said her business fared even better than it had in the summer of 2005. She said sales increased in late May and June when students from the surrounding high schools were getting ready for prom and parents were buying graduation gifts for their children.

Sperry, however, remarked on the potentially positive effects of increased gas prices. "I think higher gas prices actually kept people closer to home," said Sperry. She believes that because of this, more of her customers decided to shop locally and less people were inclined to drive out to Burlington or Rutland for their shopping needs. Though Sperry was worried that the construction in town would harm her business she said the renovations did not seem to interfere at all and instead encouraged customers to stay closer to home. "People are getting the message that by shopping locally they are keeping the dollars for local organizations," said Sperry.

Despite disappointing turnouts many local restaurants found innovative ways to draw in their clientele. Eat Good Food proposed a $35 prix fixe menu on Thursdays that consists of all locally bought ingredients as well as free food at the bar every Wednesday night. Fire and Ice added some lower-priced entrees to their menu and created a new pub with the hopes of bringing in more people who wanted a casual meal out. "For some reason it seems that people come to [Fire and Ice] mostly on special occasions like birthdays and anniversaries," Rowland said. She added, "The addition of the new pub was created to send out the message that Fire and Ice was not just for special occasions but, instead, was a place where you could come in for a burger and a beer."

With the coming of autumn, local business owners hope to encounter a more stable season, especially since gas prices are starting to level out, dropping as much as 20 cents from last May's highs.



Sam Yoo

Despite higher gas prices and a slower tourist season, Middlebury businesses continue to remain optimistic.

Rainville, Welch vie for Vermont House seat

Continued from page 6

ocrat elected to represent Windsor County in the Vermont State Senate, according to his campaign website. Welch served the Senate from 1981 to 1988, and during that time "he spearheaded legislative reforms in environment, tax, and education policy. Among his top accomplishments was his major role in the establishment of the Housing and Land Conservation Trust Fund, which has financed the construction of hundreds of units of affordable housing and the conservation of thousands of acres of Vermont farm and forest land," as explained on his campaign website.

Rainville, by contrast, comes to the race from a military background. According to her website, "She was elected Adjutant General of the Vermont National Guard on February 20, 1997, becoming the first woman in the 370-year history of the country's National Guard to serve as a state Adjutant General. As Adjutant General, she commanded the 3,800 members of the Vermont Army and Air National Guard, as well as served as the Commissioner of the Military Department, State of Vermont. She oversaw a combined federal and state budget in excess of $120 million with a full-time work force of some 900 state and federal employees."

Rainville has received awards and attention for her leadership role in the National Guard. According to McKenna, "After 9/11, when National Guard troops were ordered to the border, the Vermont National Guard sent troops to Canada. Initially the soldiers weren't allowed to be armed, and Rainville thought this was a bad decision. She had already gained the respect of her colleagues and was able to change the policy so they were armed." Many Vermonters, who saw more of their own National Guardsmen deployed to confront the war on terror than any other state, are especially familiar with Rainville's leadership skills.

Despite her moderate leanings, many Republicans still support Rainville. In fact, Rainville is so moderate that she is said to have vacillated between the Republican and Democratic parties before jumping on with the Republicans before the race began.

Do they want to give one more vote to George W. Bush and the Bush Congress, or do they want to vote for a change in leaderhsip and new direction.
— Peter Welch

After joining, Rainville has had no qualms accepting enormous funds from the Republican party – even from conservative members. According to public records, the National Republican Campaign Committee has spent now nearly $170,000 on her campaign. Among the Republicans who have publicly voiced support for Rainville are First Lady Laura Bush and Sen. John McCain. At a fundraising dinner for Rainville in Burlington last week, McKenna heard McCain point out, "Republicans who worked in the military have a stronger credibility among fellow members," in reference to her experience as adjutant general for the Vermont National Guard.

Welch, on the other hand, has earned his credibility over the many years he has been involved in Vermont politics and policy making. Welch has even had the experience of running for and losing an election. Welch may have lost 1988 primary for the U.S. House, but the event never hindered his aspirations. In regards to Welch losing an election almost two decades ago, Savage remarked, "He has a ton of experience and enormous respect from the legislature. He's in a different position this time."

Both candidates claim Vermont and America are ready for change, and both seek to provide that change.

Welch believes a change in leadership is essential, saying, "The question facing Vermonters in this race for Congress is clear – do they want to give one more vote to George W. Bush and the Bush Congress, or do they want to vote for a change of leadership and new direction."

Rainville was confident that her leadership skills will carry her to victory in reforming congress and all its shortcomings, saying "Serving in Congress is about public service. We need to take steps to keep Congress focused on the needs of the people and not on partisan agendas or the goals of special interest groups. The steps I have presented throughout this campaign – clean campaigns, ethics and budget reform, and term limits – work to establish a process that will help restore voters' faith in their elected officials."

opinions

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The Facebook thing and what you like to do with it

Meet Joe Midd. Or wait, maybe you already have. Joe is a sophomore international studies major with an economics minor. He hails from Pasadena, Calif., his mailbox number is 6739, and he currently lives in Brooker 403. This semester he is only taking three classes — West European Politics, Russian and Studio Art. But anyone with a college directory and access to Outlook already knew this much about Joe.

Log-in to Facebook.com and we find a more revealing portrait of the young Joe Midd. Now we see a young man who lists "strippers in Ross," drinking rum and attending cockfights as his top interests. In his own photo albums he enjoys posing naked with strategically placed stuffed animals or plant-life concealing his little Joe member.

Joe, we learn, is a current member of the groups "Sex and the Cowland," "People Who Love Forking," "Everybody Pees" and "The Only Good Whore Is a Dead Whore." Facebook feed says he also recently joined the group "hey babe how would you like to take a ride on my boloney pony."

And for those ladies who are attracted to all this, Facebook feed also says Joe just split his "it's complicated" ties with Sarah Midd. He has already updated his relationship status as, "looking for random play."

If you have not yet figured it out, Joe Midd is a composite of information pulled from a wide range of Middlebury student profiles on Facebook.com. Joe is not just one giant embarrassment to this College — he is actually representative of dozens of embarrassing Facebook profiles that students have tied to Middlebury through the popular social networking website. Even worse, most of these tidbits were pulled from prominent student leaders in the Commons, student government and even this newspaper.

Many students may fondly recognize some of Joe's "clever" personal information from their friends' profiles or, perhaps, even their own. The Deans in Old Chapel and the Student Affairs Office — who, yes, do have their own Facebook accounts — probably recognized some of Joe, too. Just not as fondly.

And then there are the job recruiters who contract students and alumni from Middlebury and other colleges to research possible job candidates via their insider Facebook access. They probably did *not* remember Joe's witty little nuggets of personal information, since they were taken from the profiles of people these firms and non-profit organizations chose or will choose not to hire.

Facebook offers amazing potential for classmates and friends to stay in touch no matter how far apart they might end up. Students *should* make available their phone numbers and e-mail addresses so people can stay in touch. And there is nothing wrong with posting your birthdate or memorable — but appropriate — pictures to share. But somewhere a line needs to be drawn.

Collectively the gross and sometimes offensive Facebook groups we identified had literally hundreds of Middlebury student members. From groups that celebrate peeing in inappropriate places on campus, to groups that honor men who use derogatory pick-up lines and women who say that they do not mind receiving them. Do Middlebury students truly stand behind the things they post on Facebook? We hope not. Does that make them any more acceptable? Not in the least.

The Middlebury campus is a safe haven where students can do many things that they will never be able to do anywhere else. The World Wide Web, however, is not Club Midd. The curtains of anonymity that students foolishly assume are hiding the stuff they write and things they do on the Internet, simply do not exist.

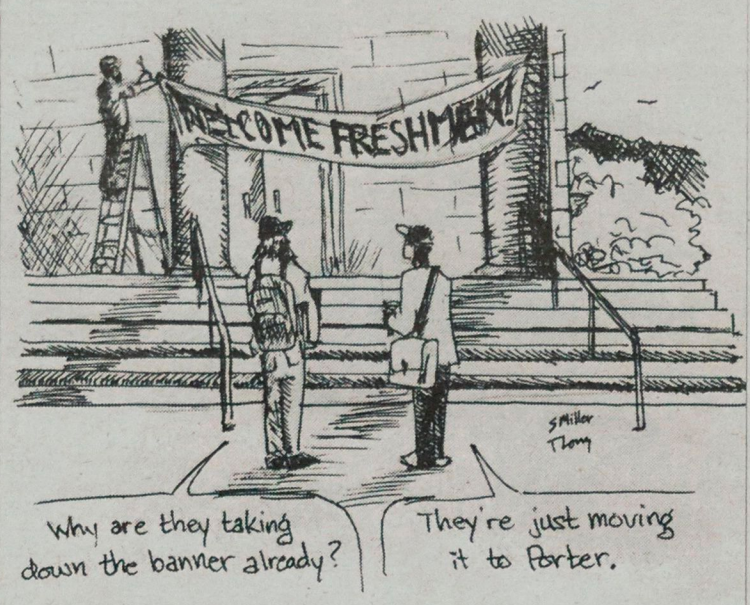
It is time students reconsider how they use Facebook to present themselves, and their institution, to the world.

The Middlebury Campus (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published by The Middlebury Campus Publications. Publication is every Thursday of the academic year, except during offical college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are located in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. The Middlebury Campus is produced on Apple Macintosh computers using Adobe InDesign 2.0 and is printed by BD Press in Burlington, Vt. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt., 05753. Office phone: (802) 443-5736. Business phone: (802) 443-5737. Please address distribution concerns to the Business Director. First class postage paid at Middlebury, Vt., 05753.

HEARD ON CAMPUS

I AM FAMILIAR WITH THE LIABILITY CONCERNS THAT HAVE BEEN RAISED IN THE PAST ABOUT THE PROGRAM, AND THEY ARE HARD TO IGNORE.

—SGA President Alex Stanton referring to the SafeRides Program.



Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

Having two daughters who entered Midd as Febs, I am most sorry to hear this ("AdministrationCutting Back on Feb Admissions," Sept. 14, 2006. Febs seem to have a special pride, and their numbers, well over 100, give merit to the program yet do not lead them toward segregation. A smaller group might feel more isolated and will have a more difficult time mingling, as do transfer students at any institution. I'm sure my daughters would not have chosen to be Febs, yet their selection to enter at that time of year has proven to be beneficial in so may ways. I have heard the complaints about classes and housing, but I believe keeping the numbers strong is an advantage to students individually as well as for the group in the long run. College housing is what tends to segregate and needs to be revisited.

Sincerely,
Ann Minton
Middlebury Graduate Parent

To the Editor:

I consider myself and my friends extremely fortunate to be among the ever growing multicultural population Shirley Ramirez assisted years ago.

Not only will Middlebury benefit from Shirley's extensive experience, the College will also benefit from her passion and dedication to her work, her gifted insight and knowledge of her field and her innovative ideas.

She is also a compassionate, caring and exceptionally noble individual.

Shirley Ramirez will be a valuable asset to your institution and the educational endeavor as a whole because her vision and her work, driven by her passion to make this a better world, will impact generations to come.

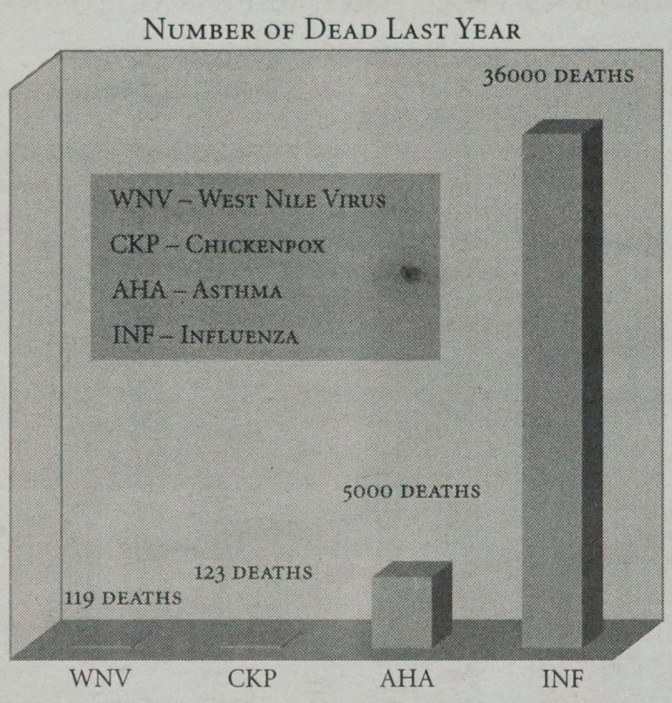
Sincerely,
Migdalia Sánchez
. New York, N.Y.

OPINIONS SUBMISSION POLICY

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's website at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

West Nile Virus fears exaggerated

The recent hysteria over West Nile Virus (WNV) in the American media has been largely unfounded, and last week's sensationalist *Middlebury Campus* article ["Blood-thirsty bugs out of control"] was no exception.



In truth, only 119 Americans died of WNV last year, out of a national population of around 300,000,000. That number is also expected to drop over the coming years as Americans build up immunity to the disease. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) reports that only one in 150 infected people will get seriously ill, and only 3-15 percent of those will die, many of whom are elderly or immunocompromised.

If you have been bitten by a mosquito carrying the virus, you probably don't even know it. According to CDC statistics, around 80 percent of people infected will experience no symptoms, and even if you are unlucky enough, as I was, to fall into the group of nearly 20 percent who develop West Nile Fever, you will probably assume you have an unpleasant case of the flu. In the seven years since WNV first showed up in New York City, the National Biological Information Structure reports that only 500 Americans have died. In fact, far more Americans die *each year* of common diseases such as chickenpox (CKP), asthma (AHA) and influenza (INF), all of which have highly effective means of prevention and/or treatment. In 2003 alone, the CDC reported that over 3000 Americans died of malnutrition. The proposed use of pesticides in Vermont's wetlands in order to control the mosquito population would be a proportional response only if these mosquitoes were transmitting something far more virulent, like malaria, yellow fever or dengue. In addition to the hazards of exposing Vermonters to large amounts of pesticides, the resulting drop in the mosquito population would have a devastating effect on our native bird, fish, snake, frog, and bat populations, all of which rely on mosquitoes for their survival.

Instead of dousing Vermont's wetlands with $180,000 worth of pesticides – in order to allay the fears that articles like yours have provoked – our state government should invest its resources into efforts that could actually improve the lives of Ver-

EMILY KILBORN '07
AN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES MAJOR
From Ontario, N.Y.

An offer you cannot refuse: voting

It's lawn sign season again. Anyone of us who drove to campus last week probably noticed any number of them adorning the lawns of our college community. Tarrant, Bernie, Welch and Rainville are among the names you might have seen.

But heck, it's a midterm election. Nobody really pays much attention to those, right? I mean, few of us even vote when there's no presidency at stake.

I hope the intended irony of those last two sentences came across. Better yet, I hope you're reading this and have already requested your absentee ballot, and are considering whom you'll vote for come November 7.

But if you're not, here's a quick plea from a fellow student to encourage you to do just that. One major reason is the obvious one — voting among young people has been shown to decrease flatulence by 65%. Others might cite another statistic, namely, that since gaining the right to vote in 1972, young people in the U.S. have been turning out to vote in declining numbers (following voting statistics provided by state PIRGs). The low point came during the 2000 election, one of the closest in United States history, when less than half of the eligible 18- to 24-year-old population cast their ballots (36.1%). Whether you're motivated by farts, or by a desire to pick up our generation off apathy's floor, is up to you.

Frankly, I don't find the low-turnout statistics inspiring. Maybe you don't either, in which case, you'll be pleased to know that 47% of 18-24 year old voters turned out in the last U.S. election, a remarkable increase of 11 percentage points over 2000. And we can do a lot better.

When we do, when we young people cast that ballot and express what policies and politicians we want, we have more influence. Fact. Just look at what *isn't* happening now, namely, that politicians don't make a special effort to reach out to young voters, or talk about issues that matter to us. We haven't given them much reason to, if what they're most concerned with is getting elected. It doesn't mean they think we don't matter because we're uninformed punks who listen to loud music and bite our nails. Okay, maybe they still think that, and it's often true, but so what? Our opinions count.

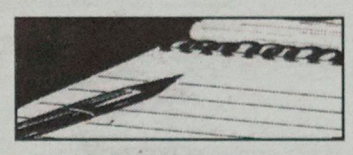
Here at Middlebury, with practically all U.S. states represented (apologies for the U.S. focus, international students) by at least one student, we've got an incredible learning opportunity on our hands. Election news is hard to follow in even just one state, let alone all 50, and at our small college and among our friends, we've got a great shot at being more informed. Let's take advantage of it.

Additionally, it's easier than ever to vote at Middlebury. If you've never voted before and want to vote at home or in Vermont, or if you need to request an absentee ballot, or if you want to learn more about the upcoming elections, your fellow students are here to help. A group of us, calling ourselves MiddVote, have set the goal of 100% student voter participation among eligible students. We're setting up tables at campus events, and in dining halls (maybe you've seen us already), collecting students' info, and we're emailing everyone their registration forms and absentee request forms. We're also providing stamps and envelopes. The only thing we're not doing is providing walking companions to the post office. Look for us on campus, and get involved if you'd like.

Or you can visit www.rockthevote.org, and the user-friendly site can help get you registered or request your absentee ballot.

If you take a second and set down your *Campus*, and then think of all the days this past year that you've read the national news. Maybe some of those days you've put down the newspaper with a less than cheerful attitude about the state of the world and this country. Maybe other days you read something that gave you great faith in what leaders of this county are capable of. Either way, I encourage you to take five minutes and commit yourself to making sure you vote on November 7, whether that means registering or making a ballot request. Thanks!

MAY BOEVE '06.5
A POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR
From Sonoma, Calif.



NOTES
FROM THE DESK

It was a beautiful Monday morning in September. Being an enthusiastic MiddKid, I decided to wake up at 6 a.m., fix myself a steaming mug of hot chocolate, and sit out on the porch of the beautiful house I am fortunate enough to live in as the result of my seniority and take in the magnificent Vermont sunrise. Are you fooled yet?

The morning was in fact *not* beautiful — it was 6 a.m. Our kitchen, although adequately stocked, does not contain anything that could even remotely pass as a "steaming mug of hot chocolate." And while our porch actually is quite nice, it really only consists of a wind-blower hanging thing, acquired from the dollar store.

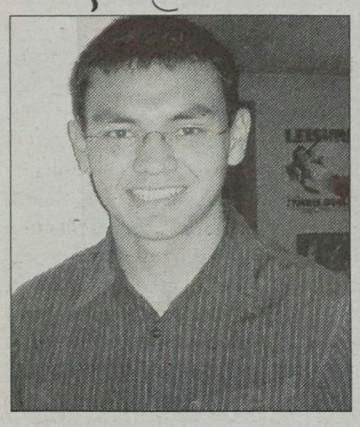
Why, you might be wondering, was I awake at this ungodly morning hour? I was partaking in a little talked about Midd tradition in which semi-maniacal, hopefully entirely ashamed, undoubtedly overachieving seniors select the thesis carrel of their dreams.

To fully understand the scope of what will from this point on be referred to as "Crazy Carrel Chaos Day," let me paint a picture:

I arrive at the library at 6:50 a.m., feigning astonishment at the crowded library foyer. Although I, clearly, had intended to be an even earlier arriver, I played the press snooze game a few too many times and, to make myself feel better, shelled out some pretty nasty glares at all those bright-eyed and bushy-tailed who were, evidently, more devoted to the cause than I. Waiting in line was, well, a tense experience. With each new arrival some line-tender had to step up and, as politely as possible, direct the newcomer to the end of the line, which had evolved into a rather serpentine amorphous form. As I neared the circulation desk finally gettting my chance, the choices overwhelmed me. Did I want a carrel in the mezzanine? The main level? The main level mezzanine? Options abounded. All the drama proved to be for naught, except for the poor unfortunate souls stuck with upper level back mezannine carrel numbers 43-59. Damn fools.

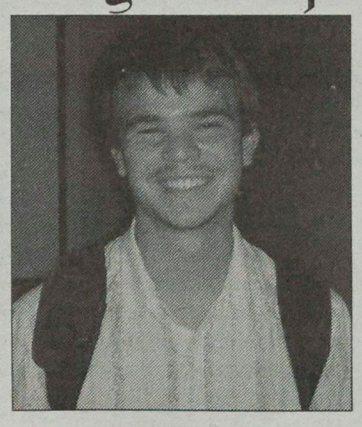
— Polly Johnson
Associate Editor

The Middlebury Campus weekly poll



"I HEAR THEY HAVE AN AWESOME GRADUATION CEREMONY, SO IT WOULD BE A SHAME IF LESS PEOPLE HAD THAT."

—DEREK SAKAMOTO '10



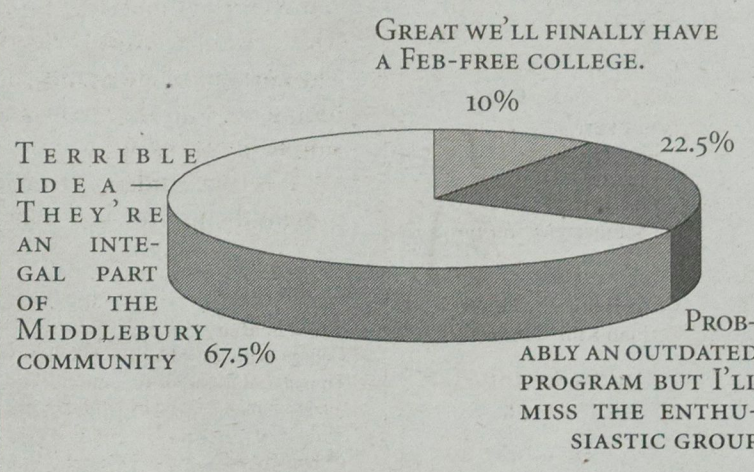
"WHEN I DECIDED TO COME, THE ADMINISTRATION SOLD THE PROGRAM AS WORTHWHILE. NOW THAT THEY DON'T NEED TO FILL THE BEDS, THEY'RE SCALING BACK WHICH SEEMS RIDICULOUS TO ME."

—DAVID WRANGHAM '08.5

"I LIKE FEBS, BUT I ALSO KNOW FEBS WHO DON'T LIKE BEING FEBS. EITHER WAY THEY SHOULD BE INVOLVED IN THE DECISION MAKING PROCESS BEFORE THE ADMINISTRATION DOES ANYTHING."

—JULIANNE JONES '07

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S PLAN TO SCALE BACK THE FEB CLASS?


Great we'll finally have a Feb-free college.
10%
22.5%
Terrible idea — they're an integal part of the Middlebury community
67.5%
Probably an outdated program but I'll miss the enthusiastic group

Results based on 40 responses gathered throughout the Middlebury Campus

Next Week's Poll Question: What do think of Chief Justice John Roberts speaking at Middlebury?

features

11
POTTY TALK
A SURVEY OF THE BEST AND WORST MIDDLEBURY BATHROOMS

12
SIGN ME UP
FOUR CLUBS THAT SIGNIFY WHAT IT MEANS TO ATTEND A LIBERAL ARTS SCHOOL

13
BEATS, RHYMES AND LECTURES
STUDENTS AND FACULTY RENDER SYMPOSIUM A HIT

First-year follows unusual route to Middlebury

An Afghan boy's incredible evolution to a college student in Vermont

By Joseph Bergan
Features Editor

"My mother says I was 'born to the sound of gunfire'," explains an Afghani man sitting across from me in a corner room in Ross Commons. Moments earlier this man, Bilal Sarwary '10, had brewed green tea and poured it into a porcelain cup he had provided me before showing me a seat on his bed. Adorning the walls over his bed are pictures of his past. I am sweating, because I am late for the interview and a bit nervous. I have 10 minutes to interview Sarwary before a friend is to arrive to take him to dinner.

"I'm with a journalist," he yells out the window. "I will probably be 45 minutes late."

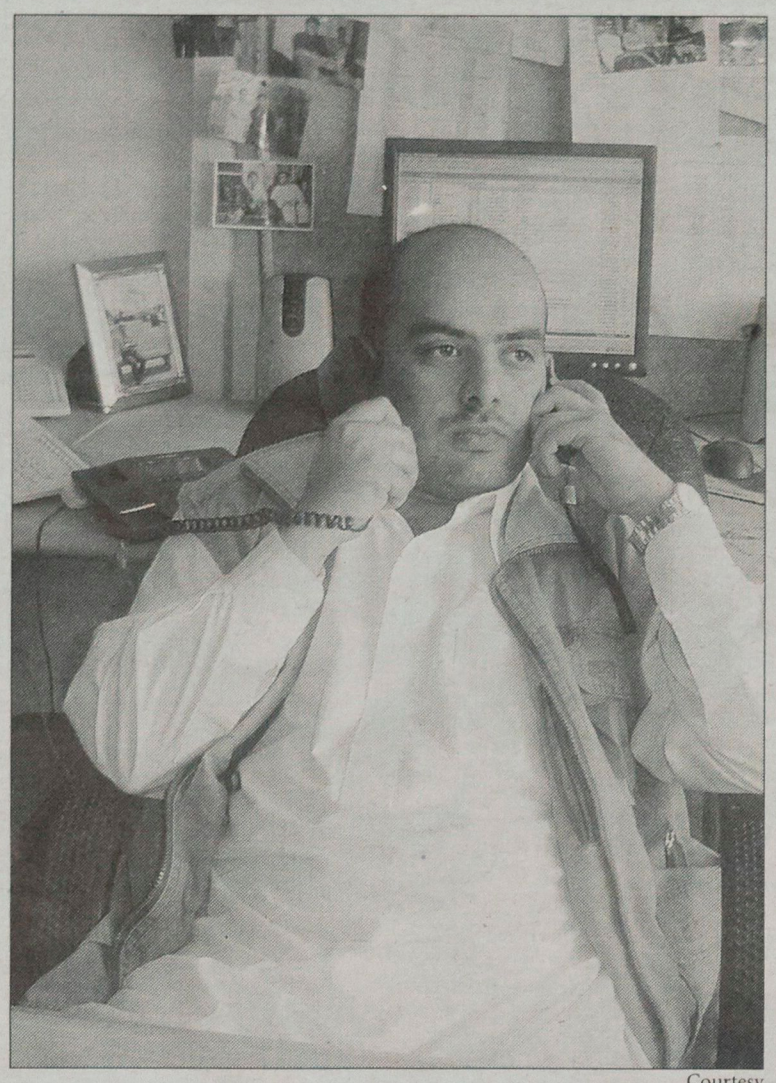
My voice rises in a weak response. "Oh, no…don't do.." I grasp for the polite words so that I do not ruin his evening. He will hear none of it.

As he sits down, I tell him it should not be long, just a few questions, just a 'Q and A' type of interview. I ask him how he came to Middlebury College, and he says it would be easier if he just read his personal statement; my cursory glance at the heading reveals the words, "About Me," typed in boldface.

Bilal begins with a recount of his childhood, how he was a "cheeky boy," always talkative and intelligent, a natural speech giver who attended the government school in Kabul.

"I was an ordinary boy, just like yourself," he explains. "I had a warm breakfast in the morning, I was just like you."

One morning, the nine-year-old "cheeky boy" bounced outside with his friends and ran like so many children did, out to the fields to play soccer. During the game, he heard loud noises and dark gray smoke began to fill the skyline of Kabul. The mujahideen had attacked Kabul, the jewel of Afghanistan, beginning a bloody civil war that would go largely unnoticed by the United States media until an early September morning in 2001.



Courtesy
Bilal Sarwary '10 sits at his previous desk at the BBC in his native Kabul.

Sarwary ran home to find his mother and sister on the floor covered in blood. The ambulance came but it was no use. There were so many dead civilians that his mother and sister were laid to rest at a mass funeral in Kabul. Days later, Sarwary was in a "scorching hot tent" in Pakistan, selling cold water for a little money, just to survive.

As he recounts this, he stares at the paper, concentrating on the words, scratching his head nervously. He is eager to share the precise details but not to relive those memories again.

The months and years that follow were difficult, as he worked as an apprentice painter, "which I discovered later was child labor," he says.

"Aghanistan was a hotel with no reception," he explains.

He made this keen observation while at his low-level job in the Intercontinental Hotel in Afghanistan where he was working on Sept. 11, 2001. In the following months America's eye turned back to this city of "no hope." The "cheeky boy" from Kabul now found a grand opportunity.

"I started as a BBC translator," a post from which he climbed the ranks all the way to the Kabul producer for that news agency. Since then he has appeared on NPR and briefly worked with the late Peter Jennings at ABC News. In those years, he saw more than your average first-year may see in his or her entire life.

"I am an ambassador," he explains, and his rhetoric brings to mind those great leaders of the civil rights era, "I am interested in weapons of mass construction, not weapons of mass destruction." Later he adds that, "They [the older generations] solved problems with bullets, we will solve them with ballots."

Today Sarwary has enrolled at Middlebury, to finally finish something he put on hold that day his world was so significantly altered. This new mission is far away from the BBC producer's desk in Kabul.

"The United States is a different planet," he explains. "I just came from a place where I had three hours of electricity a day and no warm shower in the morning."

By this time I have sufficiently bothered Sarwary's evening, but he does not care; this is what he is here for.

"I am on a mission to knock on as many doors as I can," he explains as the shouts of other Midd-kids fill the afternoon day. "We have a saying in Afghanistan, "The mountain may be high, but there is always a route."

I understood then that this was not a disruption for Sarwary. He wants nothing more than to sacrifice himself so that others may understand a little more about his country, so that they will not ignore it ever again. Sarwary says "I have accomplished so much under such different circumstances, and no one can take that away from me."

Students hip hop to 'Bad As I Wanna Be' Symposium

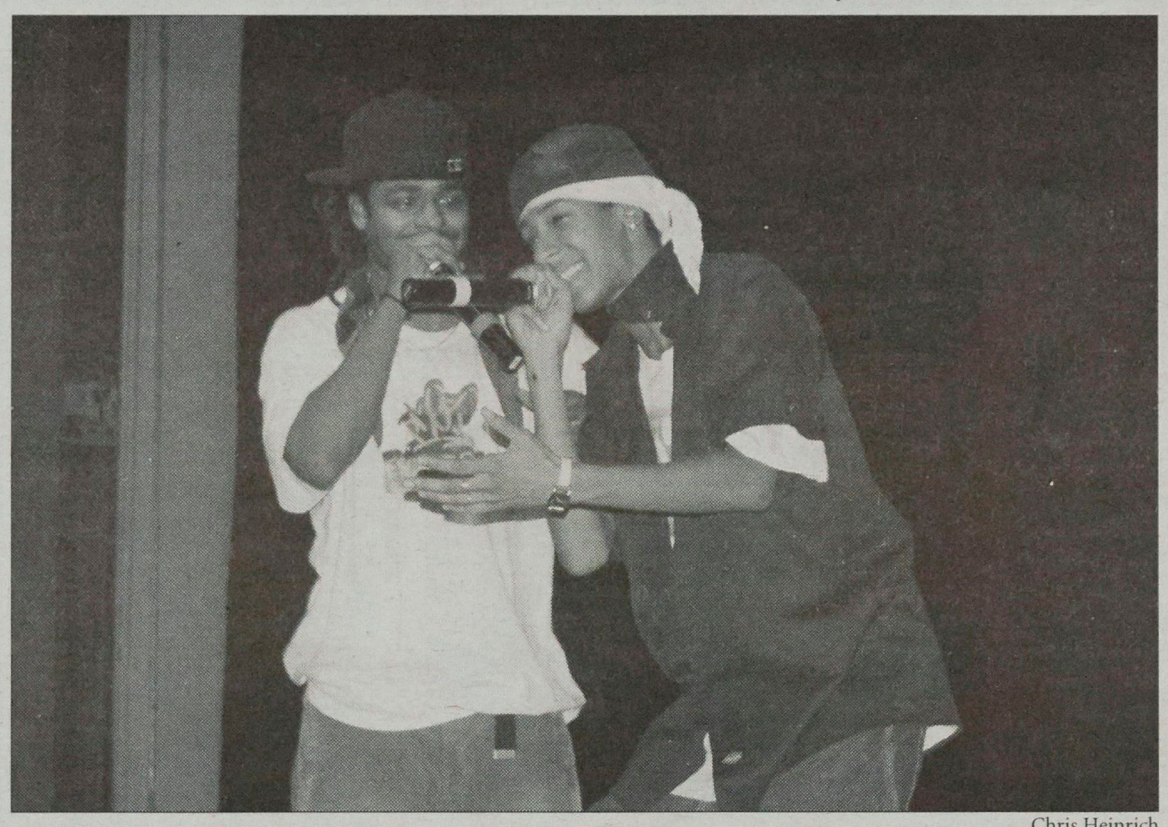
By Michael Murali
Assistant Features Editor

Middlebury College discussed the wide range of social and cultural issues surrounding hip hop in a three-day event titled "Bad As I Wanna Be, A Hip Hop Symposium" this past weekend. From Friday through Sunday, the College hosted a series of film screenings, lectures, panels and performances.

Chair of the Women and Gender Studies Department at Middlebury Sujata Moorti, had been working with other faculty and students on organizing the symposium for over a year.

"One thing that struck me in teaching my first class here at Middlebury was how so many students love hip hop," she said when asked about the influence for this project.

Will Nash, Associate Professor of American Studies and co-Head of Wonnacott Commons, had also worked on the symposium. This semester, he is teaching a first-year seminar called "Blues and American Culture." Nash particularly appreciated the way in which the symposium fused students' academic and extracurricular interests. "The student performance on Friday night was especially poignant," he raved.



Chris Heinrich
Tavi and Phes, Hip Hop duo performers, joke onstage at McCullough Saturday night.

Following a screening on Thursday night of the Marc Levin film "Godfathers and Sons," Greg Tate, a journalist for the *Village Voice*, delivered the keynote address on Friday night. Saturday consisted of a music workshop in the morning, followed by several panels and discussions in the afternoon and concluding with a film screening of "That Crack in the Concrete" by

See hip-hop, page 13

A pseudo-scientific survey of Middlebury's top five restrooms

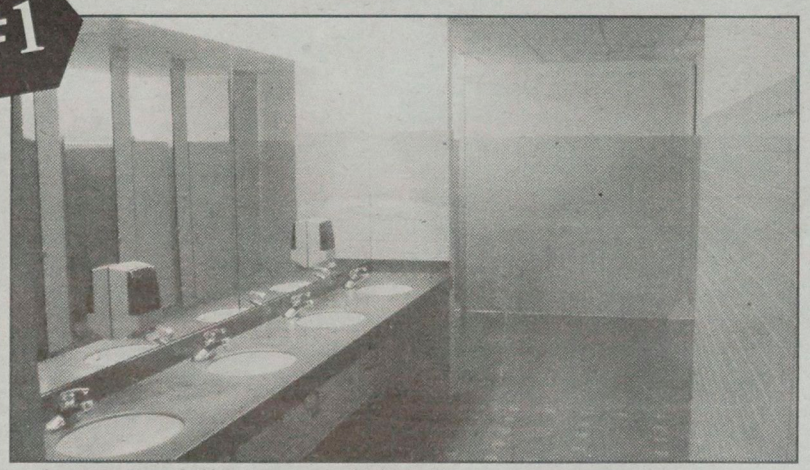
The Campus explores the good, the bad and the ugly in toilets, paper towels and ambiance

The Middlebury Campus has reviewed many entities of the college over the past years. Art performances, movies, lectures, student politicians and restaurants have all been subject to careful scrutiny. This article contributes to that long list of excellence with a review of the places on campus you visit everyday (more if you're on the dining plan) the bathroom.

The Campus credits Middlebury College's recent leap in US News rankings from eighth to fifth to the administrations devotion to providing students with the lowest toilet to student ratio out of any liberal arts school in the Northeast area. With that in mind we decided to bring you some of the most lavish lavatories and dingiest dumps on campus (we promise that's the last poop pun in the article).

– Andrew Herzik and Joseph Bergan

#1



John McCardell Bicentennial Hall

This is perhaps one of the finer designed bathroom spaces in the school. The location is central but refreshingly secluded. Upon entering, you are faced with a nice foyer, leading to a terrific full length mirror. The first thing we noticed was the sheer size of the place. There are way too many sinks and stalls to be used, so you can rush in at the most hectic of times and find a seat. Another fantastic feature to this pit stop are the coat hooks - secured to the door with two screws - these babies are perfect for a full backpack or messenger bag. For the morally paralyzed, this location's handicap stall is a must use. The secluded design creates a terrific noise buffer so the people in the Great Hall will not be priviliged to hear. The bathroom also lends itself to extended visits with the vending machine just foot steps away. Combine these aspects with the safety showers in the lab and the seductively comfortable couches, we believe this stop stands equal to your average Econolodge or Motel 6.

#2

Third Floor Old Chapel-The Emperor's Chambers

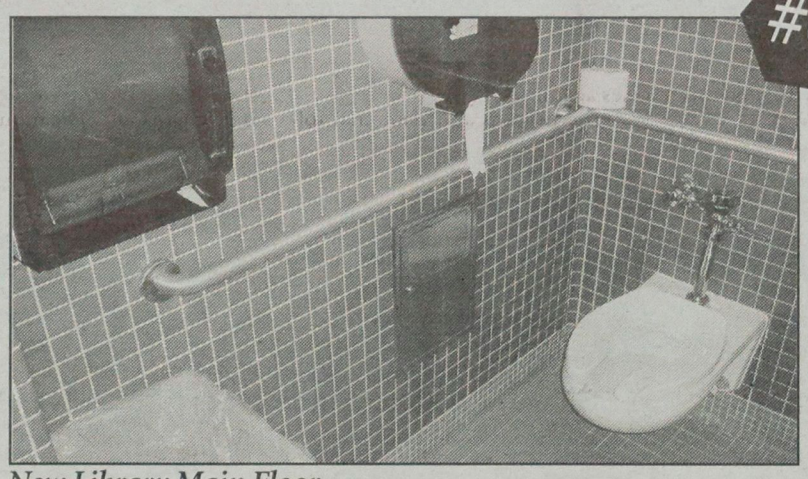
A personal tour of this bathroom by Ronald Liebowitz himself proved that our president truly is a man of the people. Besides the aromatic air freshener installed to counteract the harmful effects of poor ventilation system in Old Chapel, this bathroom displays no amenities out of the ordinary. In case you were wondering, the president uses the same toilet paper, washes his hands with the same soap and dries with the same brown paper towels as the rest of us. When asked if he was satisfied with his setup, the President responded, "You have to use what's given to you."

#3

Forest second floor

This upperclassman dorm houses one of the most perplexing bathrooms we could find. Its tight space was a bit of a factor, but not too much to upset these lax critics. The shower setup is a major step up from Stewart, and there is a private changing room with hooks and a shower stall all to yourself. This bathroom failed in one very important way – a bathtub has replaced the sink. In theory this may work, but what about when you go to the bathroom and you plan on washing your hands, but when you get to your room, your significant other calls and you get stuck on the phone? In the mean time, you have spread germs across several doorways. Granted, hand sanitizer is provided, but what about those messy occasions?

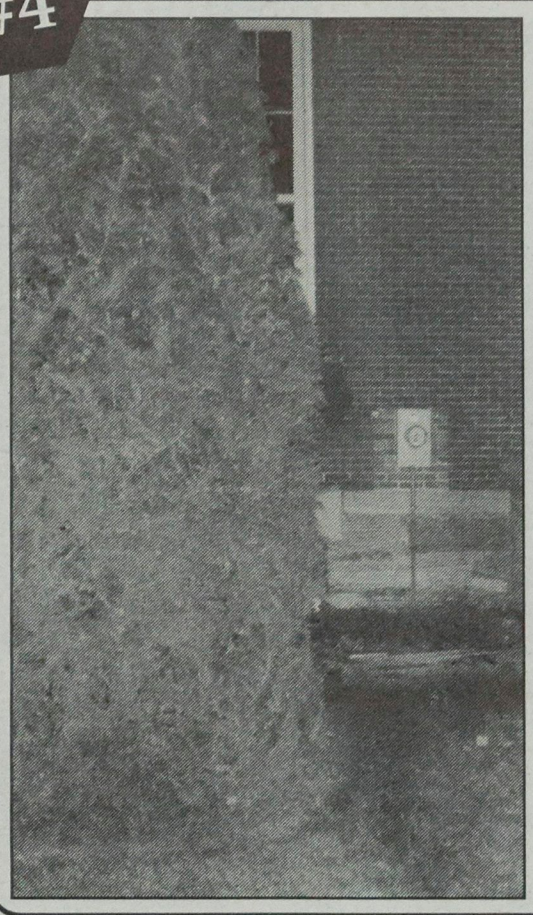
#6



New Library Main Floor

The bathroom on the main floor at the back right of the library is deceptive. While it may be construed as one of the best bathrooms on campus, our tests proved it to be one of the worst. It calls to you like the snake and the apple – but you must be strong! It's clean, lighting is good and we found ample toilet paper. Furthermore, the supposed privacy appears to be a huge plus in this one-person-capacity spot. Do not be fooled! You are not sitting in a concrete bunker, rather, you are resting in a very flimsy cardboard box. Our simulated "bathroom sound test" was audible in a 20-foot radius, meaning that peer writing tutors had a front row seat to the show. In addition, the one-person-limit, once so appealing, becomes a death trap: you can be positively identified upon exiting.

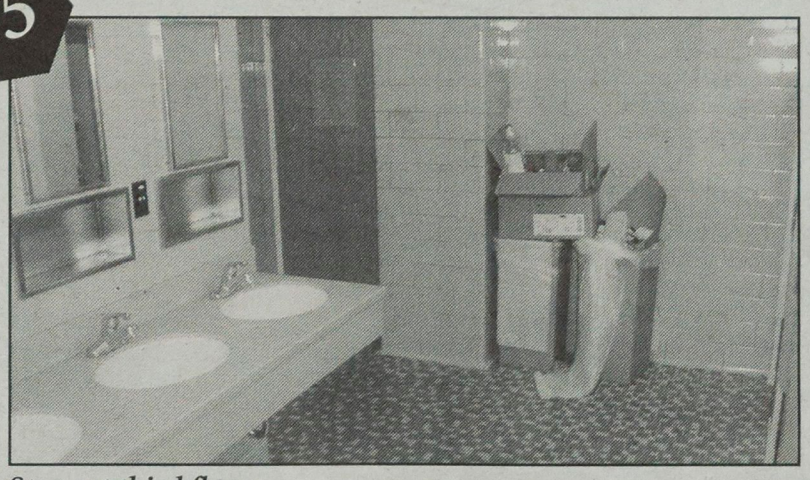
#4



Outside of Twilight

When nature calls, this is the perfect location to answer the phone. A great spot to escape to when the bar bathroom lines are long on Friday and Saturday nights, or you are simply the outdoorsy type. Like Bicentennial Hall, the location is central, yet high shrubs and walls hide you from Middlebury police. To add to the ambience you can lose yourself in the scenic panoramas of the rural Vermont night sky. Some drawbacks, however, include the lack of a door, toilet paper, paper towels or running water, and the fact that using a public shrub as your urinal is illegal. Additionally, with the advent of winter the danger of severe frostbite increases dramatically. We recommend this as a summer stop only one! Oh, and by the way, after reading this article, it is likely that Public Safety officers will know exactly where to catch you with your pants around your ankles.

#5



Stewart third floor

There are far too many dorm bathrooms to personally test out, and frankly, we do not have the stomach for it. So we skipped straight to the bottom of the food chain: Stew 3. This bathroom, used by 40 first year man-boys was surprisingly clean. The one large drawback was its overflowing garbage can with Popov bottles and 30-racks, leaving no space for our paper towel trash. Another huge problem is the lack of privacy. The showers are a jangler's paradise with very little curtain coverage and no privacy during the walk from the shower to your towel. This rest stop feels faintly reminiscent of an all-boys Catholic high school.

Student clubs flood Activities Fair with off-beat ideas

For those wanting to stray from the mainstream, the following activities are for you

By Aylie Baker
Features Editor

Chris Heinrich
Members of the Juggling Club show off some skills for some hopeful new members in McCullough last week

MIDDLEBURY PIPE BAND:

Josh Hendrickson '07.5 couldn't bring his piano with him when his family moved to Belgium. So, rather than sulk over this loss, Hendrickson picked himself up, moved on and decided it was time he began playing the bagpipes.

You may have heard them play last spring at the luminary ceremony for Relay for Life, or perhaps you have been fortunate enough to catch an informal performance while walking across the college green.

The Middlebury College Pipe Band, founded by Hendrickson, of Southern Vermont and Ian Hough '07 of New York, has quite the allure. While its numbers are small — with currently only four members — these bagpipers certainly comprise one of the more noteworthy clubs here on campus.

In addition to playing regularly during the academic year, the group also teaches a J-term workshop. "It's really not that difficult to play," asserts Hendrickson of the bagpipes. "There's only nine notes and the fingering is not hard. It's just when you combine squeeze, blow and play that it becomes more tricky."

In addition to playing recreationally on campus, the club's members often play in individual performances, churches, or, in Hendrickson's case, even at his brother's wedding. The club meets regularly at a time and a place agreeable for its members. Students interested in joining the band or taking the workshop should contact Hendrickson or Hough.

MOUNTAIN AYRES:

Paul Simon, Stevie Wonder, Monteverdi, Simon and Garfunkel — wait a minute, Monteverdi? For the Middlebury Mountain Ayres a capella group, pop, jazz and rock are all hovering in the distant future.

The group's musical selections are mainly madrigals, music from the Renaissance, consisting of complex, four-to five-part harmonies which allude to a more classical vocal interpretation and are void of beat boxing. While they plan on staying true to the interpretive style of madrigals, this year the group hopes to also pursue barbershop-style songs, by artists such as Billy Joel.

While only nine singers comprise the group, it is highly respected by the student body, and their music causes many a hair to stand up. Middlebury is one of few colleges to offer a music group which sings madrigals, explained Teddy Crecelius '08, the group's president.

The group will be holding a few informal concerts this fall as well as one in Mead Chapel. Meeting two times a week, for usually an hour and a half, the group recently accepted two new members but is always looking for new singers. "Rehearsals," explained Crecelius, "are very laid back — everyone is serious about the music," but with all the jokes, "it's no challenge to be there." Interested students should contact Crecelius for further details.

CRICKET CLUB:

For those students who are looking to pursue a more sports-oriented endeavor, the Cricket Team may be the fix. President Akshay Khanna '09, of India, remarked that he was "pleasantly surprised by how serious the practices and games were," upon arriving at Middlebury. The team, which meets from 2-5 p.m. on Sunday afternoons, boasts 20 members. Of this number, an 11-person team will be selected to play representing the College in intercollegiate contests.

The team beat NESCAC rival Williams handily this past year and only narrowly lost to Dartmouth. This year the club hopes to increase its number of games, playing other schools within the NESCAC and New England area. Students who are interested in joining the club should contact Khanna.

FLYING FISTS JUGGLING BRIGADE:

Next time you are looking for some entertainment on a dreary Tuesday evening, swing by McCullough and cast your eyes up to the Mitchell Green Lounge. Amidst the flurry of balls, rings, clubs and knives, you will discern the members of Middlebury's Flying Fists Juggling Brigade. Comprising 15 members ranging from novice to more advanced, the club aims at teaching students new tricks which, in addition to traditional juggling, include poi and contact juggling.

As for the origins of the club, "There was a juggling club a long time ago," explained Daniel Watson-Jones '09, "but it lapsed out of existence." Brian Pletcher '04 launched its revival in the form of Flying Fists Juggling Brigade and now Watson-Jones, who only began juggling upon arriving at Middlebury, is the third president.

Every spring, the club tries to sponsor a professional juggler to lead a workshop and give a performance at Middlebury. The group has also been involved in various charity events. Always looking for new members, Flying Fists Juggling Brigades meets on Tuesdays from 7:30-8:30 p.m. and on Fridays from 4:30-5:30 p.m. Interested jugglers should contact Watson-Jones or David Schoenholtz '07.

Chris Heinrich
Students crowd the Activities Fair held in McCullough Social Space where the groups represented ranged from the benign to the bizare.

WINNERS & LOSERS

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

Public Safety at the Mods	First-Years at the Mods
Thanks for the open container warning... Now back to beer pong...	Public Safety smells your fear.
Angela's First Thursday	Angela's Third Thursday
"I'm hooking up with him!"	"Wait a minute...I've made out with everyone in here."
Sean Preston Spears-Federline	Sutton Pierce Spears-Federline
The prince of the famed Spears-Federline fortune	Contestant on Surreal Life Season 36

Hip hop grooves its way into Middlebury academic scene

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

Tanji Gilliam and a hip hop duo performance.

The panel discussions were a particularly interesting aspect of the symposium. The "Uplift the Sex" panel, featuring Gwendolyn Pough of Syracuse University and Elaine Richardson of Penn State University examined the issues of gender in hip hop. Pough examined the "video hoes" of MTV and BET music videos and the way in which women are portrayed by the media. She discussed the ways in which black and Latina women in hip hop, while displayed merely for sex appeal, do have aspirations beyond being on music videos. Richardson gave a presentation on hip hop style, with a focus on the importance of hair in hip hop culture. She used examples of how black women are discriminated against for unconventional hair styles by giving the example of Congresswoman Cynthia McKinney (D-GA), who was detained by a police officer because someone in her position would not have the hairstyle she had. Richardson raised some opposing issues on how hair can be seen in a positive light, such as in the case of Erykah Badu, who wore an Afro-wig during a performance as a part of Dave Chappelle's Block Party video.

When asked about the event turnout, Moorti responded that it was ultimately very well-received and said, "It was particularly heartening to see how pockets of students came to several events."

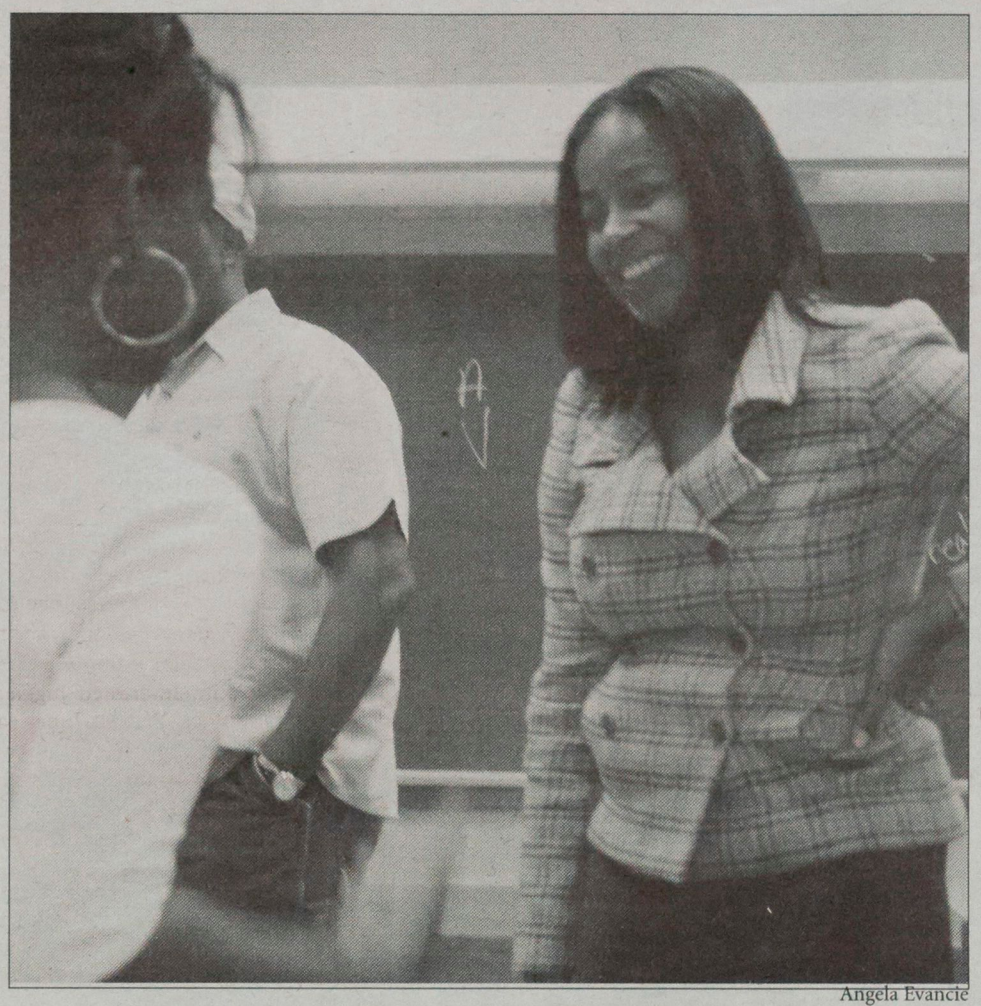
Richardson added, "The younger youth have different experiences than our generation...they are still developing a sense of themselves, consuming and participating [in what they see, read, hear, i.e. hip hop] at a different level...We need to talk about these issues."

The Hip Hop Symposium was sponsored by the Women and Gender Studies Program-Chellis House, the Academic Enrichment Fund, The Office of Institutional Diversity, Wonnacott Commons, The Music Department, The American Studies Department, Feminist Action at Middlebury, African American Alliance and Women of Color.

For those interested in future events of a similar nature, the symposium "Urban Landscapes: The Politics of Expres-

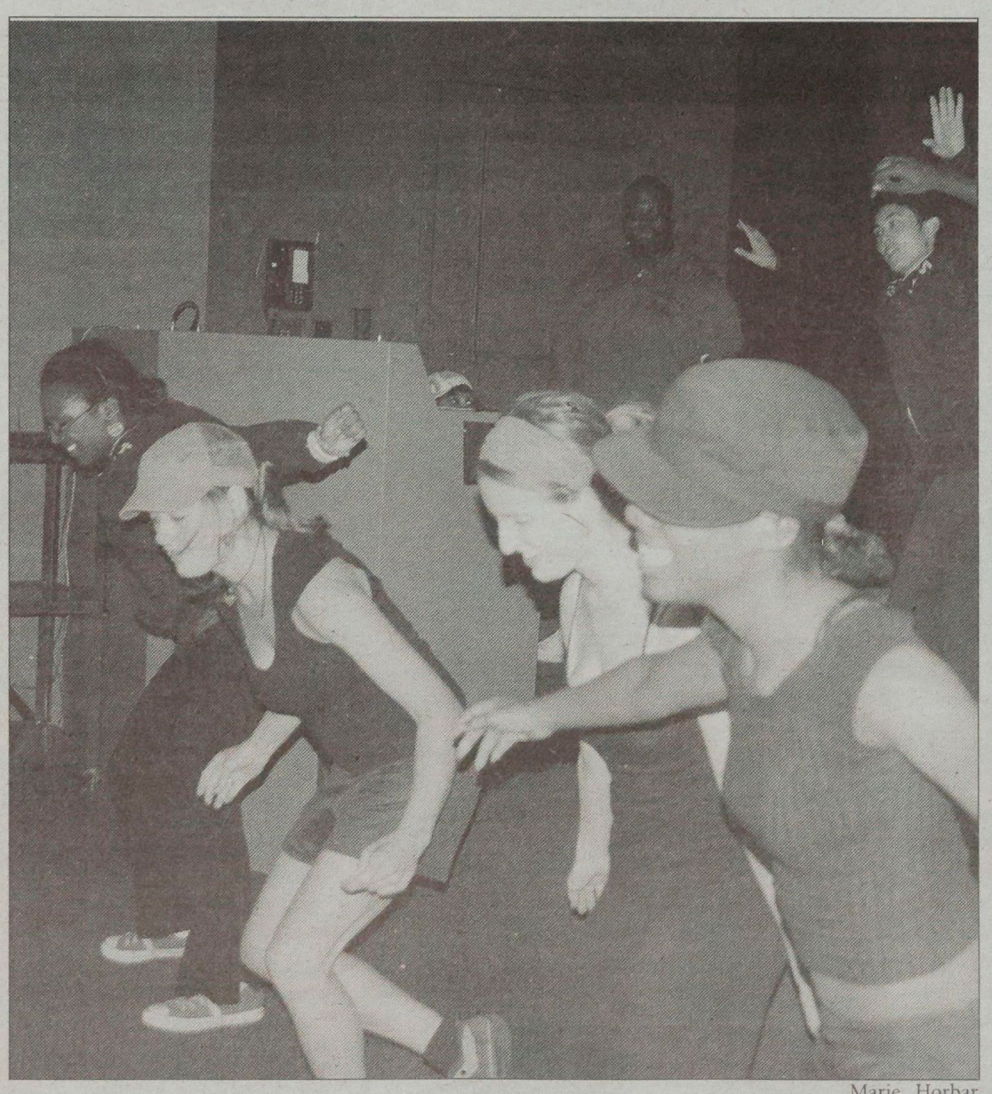
Breaking it down through dance and discussion

Students use hip hop music as a means to tackle destructive media images



Angela Evancie

The Hip-Hop Symposium drew rave reviews and smiles from all involved.



Marie Horbar

Sheyenne Brown '09 (pictured far right) was one of mnay students who contributed to Friday night's Student Performance.

By Aylie Baker
Features Editor

"It was outside. 10 p.m. They were making beats, listening to the music, tapping the poles...that," smiles Morgane Richardson '08, "was hip hop." This past Friday, Richardson had a chance to lead a discussion which utilized the musical form of hip hop as a springboard through which to discuss larger, more poignant social issues. For Richardson, this symposium helped bring to the forefront what it means to be a woman of color today while simultaneously encouraging students to constantly question the media they are consuming.

The clash between commercial hip-hop and underground hip hop was a major focal point in the discussion Friday afternoon. Commercial hip hop - produced by Universal Studios and MGM in music videos and for popular culture — differs greatly from underground hip hop – the musical art form which doused the streets of Chicago and Harlem during the 80s and still lingers less prominently in the industry today. As was revealed in the dialogue, there exists a marked difference between the more material, degrading form of hip hop — which likens women to ATM machines, for example, in music videos, and the true, unadulterated hip hop — which Richardson eloquently described as a fusion of "art and culture."

Due to the fact that they showed a great reverence for hip hop as a true art form, the student performances held on Friday night were very well-received. The performances, described Will Nash, Wonnacott Commons co-head and associate professor of American Studies, also marked an exciting fusion of academia and student extracurricular interests. Among the students participating in Friday's event was Sheyenne Brown '09. Brown danced alongside fellow Riddim World Dance members and also performed some of her poems. "Performing is what I enjoy most," gushed Brown, "be it acting, dancing [or] poetry."

Yet in regards to the thematic nature of some hip hop music, Sheynne admitted that often times she is oblivious of the lyrics she is dancing to. "For me, dance is instinct, I just feel it and want to move to it." It is "when we stop to think about the music itself," she explained, "that we realize that there exist very destructive images." Perhaps this is why the Symposium hit home for so many students. As an art form that almost all of us are familiar with, examining hip hop critically offers particular insights into social stereotypes and objectification of both women and men.

Indeed, explained Richardson, hip hop is becoming increasingly accessible to younger generations—whether it be on the radio or in music videos—and its messages are simultaneously growing more powerful. Richardson recalled her experience teaching modern dance to young girls this summer and in particular highlighted their great impressionability. Wincing slightly, she described how some of them interpreted good dance style to include removal of clothing and "shaking it."

Such media images pervade even our college community- be it in the form of late-night dances to Madonna or posters promoting upcoming sporting events. We are all entitled to freedom of expression, she emphasized. It is when our identity begins to become muddled—contorted by media images—that we need to stop and evaluate ourselves and the media critically. In essence, stressed Richardson, the symposium encouraged students to question "where we draw the line between expression of who we are—identity, culture—and the result of what we've been seeing."

SUDOKU

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arts

15
SPOTLIGHT ON... LAUREN KIEL
POTOMAC THEATRE PROJECT SETS STAGE FOR THE FUTURE

16
FASHION WHAT?
MIDDLEBURY BRINGS A CERTAIN *JE NE SAIS QUOI* TO FALL STYLE

16
VERMONT OUTDOOR ART FESTIVAL
SCULPTING A MEMORABLE SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Museum strikes gold with new exhibit

By Alexxa Gotthardt
Arts Editor

Last Thursday, the Middlebury College Museum of Art (MCMA) threw open its doors to reveal an exhibition of dazzling, epic proportions. *Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur*, traveling from the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archeology and Anthropology, presents nearly 200 shimmering vestiges of the legendary Kingdom of Ur. Unearthed from ancient Mesopotamian sands, these artifacts proclaim — with a sure amount of pomp and pageantry — the glory of the world's first civilization and together make up one of the most significant MCMA exhibitions to date.

"*Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur* is definitely one of the most important, if not the most important exhibition that the Middlebury College Museum of Art has presented," said Curator of Asian Art and in-house curator of the exhibition Colin Mackenzie. Chief Curator of MCMA Emmie Donadio echoed Mackenzie's thoughts, underlining the value of presenting such well-known artifacts at MCMA. "The works are one of a kind and among the earliest artifacts of civilization in the ancient Near East," said Donadio. "[The treasure] contains some of the most remarkable artifacts ever recovered from the earth."

The collection becomes evermore illustrious when viewing it from an academic standpoint. "Two pieces, the so-called 'Ram Caught in a Thicket' and the 'Great Lyre' are illustrated in many of the standard textbooks on the history of world art," said Mackenzie. Acting Director of MCMA and Professor of Art Glenn Andres also recognized the storied reputation of these artifacts. "It is the first time we've had multiple objects at the same time in the museum that are in all the survey books," said Andres. "We have had individual pieces that appear in the survey books, but this time we've got the whole package."

"It's also great because right now that show has implications for various art history courses and the Religion and Classics departments. In addition, Associate Professor of History of Art and Architecture Pieter Broucke's first year seminar is centered around the show," said Andres. "It's going to have a lot of interaction with the academic circles."

To introduce the exhibition at MCMA and give background on the excavation and importance of such a profound archeological find was Associate Professor of Near East Languages and Civilizations at the University of Pennsylvania and curator of the exhibition Dr. Richard Zettler. During his lecture preceding the exhibition's opening, Zettler illuminated the discovery of the Royal Tombs of Ur in 1922 by British archeologist Sir Charles Leonard Woolley with stories and witty quips about life in the field featuring eccentric diggers, interminable workdays, shimmering gold and even the appearance of Agatha Christie. It was a discovery, as Zettler described, that, through all its quirks and set backs, "rivaled even that of Tutankhamen's Tomb."

The high caliber of the artifacts becomes clear upon entering the exhibition. It would almost be unsurprising if joyous fanfare, throngs of festooned camels, colorful carts glutted with jewels and exotic Mesopotamian maidens walked the galleries couloirs, for this parade would be fitting accompaniment to the objects found within the exhibition's cases. Elaborate headdresses, pure silver cups, scores of necklaces strung of lapis lazuli, agate and carnelian, studded spears, adorned lyres, even a solid gold beer straw, reveal the traditions, culture and resplendent prosperity of a civilization departed, yet forever important.

The importance of these artifacts, however, transcends pure historical, informational resonance. As unrest in the Middle East intensifies, the region's cultural heritage is constantly threatened. The artifacts included in this exhibition, therefore, become not only a representation of the opulence of a bygone people, but also instruments of cultural conservation.

"We felt it was very important to bring this exhibition to Middlebury at this time, since it illuminates the ancient civilization of a part of the world — Iraq — that currently is in turmoil," said Mackenzie. "People currently think only of the negative aspects of this region, so it is timely to remind them that it was home to what can claim to be the world's earliest civilization."

In consideration of the recent disbandment of the sector of the Iraqi police force which protected archeological sites from robbers, the weight of the treasure heightens. Andres described the fate of the portion of the treasure of Ur belonging to the Baghdad Museum. "A large majority of the Baghdad portion [of the treasure of Ur] is gone thanks to the raiding," said Andres. "That means the portions that are in Philadelphia and London are that much more precious."

Shining with sheer artistic magnificence and a cultural importance of both the past and present, *Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur* is one show not to be missed. "Any time is appropriate for displaying world-class art of this caliber," said Donadio. "The war reminds us that not all glory is lasting — the Sumerians were succeeded by a series of other civilizations — yet the sheer magnificence of their jewels, musical instruments and other household goods which were buried with them still carry great appeal."

Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur runs through December 10 in the Middlebury College Museum of Art.

Courtesy of Jonathan Blake

Dr. Richard Zettler, University of Pennsylvania professor and curator of the exhibition T*reasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur*, describes the vibrant history of this impressive gold artifact uncovered from Queen Puabi's tomb.

Tokyo String Quartet has resounding effect

By Will Ceurvels
Staff Writer

Amid the hedonistic revelry of the first weekend of the new academic year, a congregation of students, professors and townsfolk all gathered in Mead Chapel this past Friday to witness one of the greatest chamber ensembles in the world, The Tokyo String Quartet. Watching the quartet offer its interpretations of Beethoven's Opus 18 No. 3, Webern's Five Movements for String Quartet and Schubert's Final String Quartet in G Major, one immediately noticed a difference from previous quartet performances in the Center for The Arts Concert Hall, the listening experience was distinctly communal.

At Mead Chapel, one can sense the directed intent of the whole audience, watch the still, familiar faces in the balcony and feel the heat of bodies packed into narrow wooden benches. Oftentimes, the historical nature of classical music can be alienating, but in the distinctly social milieu of Mead Chapel, it becomes possible for the listener to conceive the pieces as documents of personal artistic expression.

The task of personifying the quartet ultimately lies in the hands of the artists. Throughout the night, the Tokyo String Quartet proved capable of some of the most studied and technically graceful interpretations to visit the campus in recent years. Composed of Violinists Martin Beaver and Kikuei Ikeda, Cellist Clive Greensmith and Violist Kazuhide Isomura, the quartet aptly demonstrated why they have, over the past 30 years, developed into one of the foremost chamber ensembles in the world, with residencies at New York University's Tisch School of Art and the Yale School of Music.

The quartet approached Beethoven's Opus 18 with an academic fidelity to detail, allowing the inherently robust drama of the late composer's composition to speak for itself. This was also the case with the quartet's rendering of Webern's *Five Pieces*, a modern composition of schizophrenic, pizzicato-heavy atonal sequences, contrasted with two slow, densely-textured melodic movements. Associate Professor of Music Peter Hamlin was impressed by the quartet's ability to "make such a modern piece sound classical, with an emphasis on the solo and the rich development of color." Andrew Throdahl '08, though overall very pleased by the concert, commented that he wished the quartet "had expressed more of the poetry that Webern strived to achieve" in the otherwise mathematical and conceptual period of serial and atonal composition.

For its final piece, the quartet selected Schubert's last composition for string quartet the epic and formidably modal quartet in G major. Here, the quartet's deep understanding of the music and ability to immerse themselves completely in a piece shone in perhaps its most brilliant light. "It was a piece to savor, like being on a long ski slope that you hope will never end," said Hamlin.

If *Five Pieces* was a modern composition steeped in a classical contextual reading, Schubert's quartet was its inverse — a classical piece so texturally dynamic and endlessly innovative; it sounded modern. The Tokyo String Quartet's performance of the piece further accentuated Schubert's modern forecasting. Hamlin noted that, at one point, "the quartet played with such aggression that there seemed to arise from their instruments a kind of resonant buzz, almost like distortion." It was in these nuances, expertly rendered, that the Tokyo String Quartet breathed a novel excitement into the works, leaving their audience in a spellbound rapture.

Sometimes, however, it is more than just the music which contributes to the spiritual and transcendent nature of the concert experience.

On this particular Friday night, the air coursed with the youthful exuberance of the student-dominated crowd. During the second movement of Schubert's quartet, an older gentlemen moved his hands up and down to some imaginary fretwork, mouthing "terrific!" — the feeling was contagious. "It sent chills up my spine to hear this music and then look around and realize I was surrounded by all my friends, experiencing the music as I was," said Shalini Vimal '07.5.

Special thanks must be given to the Institute for Clinical Science and Art for making possible something so simple, but so powerful — a night of beautiful musical performance shared by a community of friends.

Spotlight on...Lauren Kiel

Lauren Kiel '07, a senior Theatre major with a Psychology minor from Simsbury, CT., speaks adoringly of her summer at The Potomac Theatre Project (PTP). Founded in 1987, PTP has been exposing young Middlebury College actors to the Washington, D.C. theatre world for almost 20 years. A unique combination of internship and performance, this program was created by Professor of Theatre and Women's and Gender Studies Cheryl Faraone and Professor of Theatre Richard Romagnoli. Accompanied by Laura Harris '07, Bill Army '07, Alec Strum '08, Rishabh Kashyap '08, Jon Ellis '06, Rebecca Kanengiser '05.5 and Lily Balsen '06, the troop was able to work alongside professional actors in this enriching and special experience.

***The Middlebury Campus*: How did you first hear of the Potomac Theatre Project?**

LK: I read about it when I was first coming to Middlebury. But it wasn't until this past summer that I heard about it from other [Middlebury] kids and I realized that I wanted to do it.

***TC*: What play were you performing in?**

LK: I acted in *An Experiment with an Air Pump* by Shelagh Stephenson and then I assistant directed *No End of Blame* by Howard Barker.

***TC*: What was it like to be acting beside professional actors?**

LK: It was awesome. I loved watching their process. They all had very unique processes and different approaches. It was just amazing to watch them all. I could take from each person things that I liked and then learn my own personal approach.

***TC*: Who was the most inspiring person to work with?**

LK: That's hard. I can't pick the most inspiring. I loved working with Tara Giordano '02 because she went to Middlebury and she was so down to earth. She came from the same theatre upbringing, but she is so down to earth, works so hard and is so talented. I felt like I could identify with her upbringing and that gave me hope that there is a way to work and be successful as an actor while still staying true to who you are and where you come from. I could see her using some of the things that I have learned directly at Middlebury, and it was so cool to see it in practice.

***TC*: What was the most discouraging thing about PTP?**

LK: It wasn't discouraging because it showed me exactly what I wanted to do with my life. The last thing I would describe it as is "discouraging." It was inspiring. But, I could see the hardships of being an actor. The professional actors who you see as so successful and stable are still auditioning all the time and working so hard. I knew all that before, but I guess PTP affirmed it.

***TC*: How has the PTP experience improved your own acting techniques? Was the main focus of the training on technique?**

LK: No, that was the other cool thing about it. When we do shows at school it is a lot about process — "Go research this, go study this, let's discuss this." But at PTP, it's so fast, you have so little time to do all these things. The professional actors don't want to be babied, so we need to go along with them. If we want to study or research, then it's all on our own. That was challenging, but I loved it. It has improved my acting because it was the first time I had been aware of what I personally had to do to prepare for a role because it was up to me. Not to say that [my technique] is fully established, but I at least developed some sort of approach that works for me. This is an ever-changing approach, but at least I have more of a personal approach than I had before PTP when I was asked and forced to come up with one on my own.

***TC*: What was it like to be reviewed by professional theatre critics?**

LK: A little scary. I actually wasn't really mentioned much personally, but there would be the paper on the kitchen table in the morning with an article right there about the show and people's performances, and that was scary. People would say they wouldn't look at them, but guess what? That's a lot harder to do than you think.

***TC*: What's the best piece of advice you would give to a budding Middlebury actor?**

LK: Take advantage of every single thing this department has to offer. I don't know why it took me so long to realize that. Go to every show, talk to the theatre professors, they have endless amounts of information. Take the classes. Just do everything. You never know if it's going to open a door or teach you something that is eventually going to get you a part. There's just so much potential.

***TC*: What are you most proud of about your career as an actor?**

LK: That I, in no way, feel like I am done learning. I'm never bored by it. I have so much to learn from acting and I will always have so much to learn. Even watching the professional actors involved in the show. It's never-ending, and that makes me happy because I can recognize that and I can always be receptive to new information.

***TC*: As graduation approaches, how is theatre involved in your future plans?**

LK: It is my future plan. I want to do it, so I'll find the way.

***TC*: Do you feel like PTP helped facilitate your future acting endeavors?**

LK: After PTP, I can totally see myself settling in D.C. and auditioning there for a while. I'm dying to go back. There is something about the humbleness of the community that was inviting rather than intimidating. Yet, at the same time I'm so curious about New York City because I've never gotten the chance to explore it. Hopefully, maybe, I'll do PTP again if they'll have me, and that may be a way for me to experience New York. But, if not, I see myself going back to Washington.

- Justine Katzenbach

Potomac Theatre Project leaves D.C for the bright lights of New York

Courtesy

Rishabh Kashyap '08 (right) in a tense scene of *No End of Blame* from this summer's PTP production.

Making the move to New York City, The Potomac Theatre Project hopes to take on a new location with as much power and professionalism as they did in the District of Columbia. Constantly striving to better Middlebury's already nationally recognized Theatre department, both Professor of Theatre Richard Romagnoli and Professor of Theatre and Women and Gender Studies Cheryl Faraone are pleased by the decision.

Faraone comments on the recent location change: "The reason why we decided to move to New York is because, in the 20 years of PTP's existence, numerous [alums] have ended up doing their professional work in New York. Middlebury theatre is a continuum, a growing group of artists, and we want them to have access to these really amazing artists while giving opportunities to our current students to be exposed to people making a life in theatre and also in film and television. The kind of theatre that we do is focused on contemporary issues. It focuses on a socio-cultural critique, and although the location where we were just outside of D.C. provided a great deal [of critique], it was not providing an audience of young and curious questioners. That is what we are hoping to alter in New York."

Recent graduate Ben Fainstein '04, who works as a professional actor, reiterating Kiel's fondness of PTP, said, "Having done the Potomac Theatre Project and having come out of the Middlebury Theatre Department I am now more prepared to work professionally in my field than just about anyone my age." Despite the geographic change, an urban switch will not blemish the integrity or credo of the Company. Faraone explains that PTP will "still be called PTP, and it will still offer students (wherever it is) the opportunity to get a close and personal look into the life of theatre by working very closely with professional actors. It's not a classroom situation — it is a professional situation." From one grand city to the next, The Potomac Theatre Project remains a remarkable opportunity for students of theatre at Middlebury, and reinforces the importance of the performing arts in this College's community.

FOR THE RECORD

by Emily Temple

So here's some of what I expect will be cool this fall. Check it out, kids.

The Hold Steady – Boys and Girls in America. Vagrant Records.

Release date: October 3.

If you've heard the first two Hold Steady albums, you're probably thinking (or you should be thinking, if you have any sense at all), "Wow, these guys rock. They probably couldn't rock any harder if they tried." You'd be wrong though, because it seems that they can. I heard a bunch of tracks from their upcoming release (titled after a line in Kerouac's *On The Road* and their first album on a major label) at their Montreal show this summer. While I was really there to sing along to all my favorite songs and salivate over Craig Finn's druggy vocals, the new stuff didn't suck to hear. In fact, it was one of the best experiences I've had with music that I didn't know at a concert in a long time. After getting my paws on the new album proper, it seems obvious that the group has matured somewhat – but don't worry, not in that gross, serious way. It's just a little more back to basics. On their website, Finn says that their idea for the new album was to sound like "five guys playing music together" again. You can hear the sentiment, and it rocks. Unfortunately for us, their fall tour to support the album kind of skirts the Middlebury area (imagine that), but if you're down, there are upcoming shows in Hamden, Conn. (Sept. 30), New York, N.Y. (Oct. 1) and Boston, Mass. (Oct. 30).

The Decemberists – The Crane Wife. Capitol.

Release Date: October 3.

Here's another October 3 release from an indie mainstay who has just switched to a major label. Hoo-ray. The album is conceptually based on the story of "The Crane Wife," which is adapted in the 12 minute, three-part, epic title track. Whew. And it's not the only 12 minute long track on the album.

The story in question is a Japanese folktale, and it goes like this: A man is out hunting in the forest when he sees a wounded crane. He helps it, removing an arrow from its wing, allowing it to fly away. Soon after, a beautiful woman comes to his door. He falls in love with her and asks her to be his wife, though saying that he is very poor and cannot offer her everything she desires. She agrees, saying that she can weave fabrics to sell at the market so she can help make money. She sets up her loom in a small room of the house and makes him promise never to look at her while she is working. He is puzzled, but agrees, and every day she produces a new beautiful piece of fabric that sells at a high price at the market. One day, the man can no longer contain his curiosity and he peeks in at his wife while she is working at her loom. He is amazed to see that his wife is the crane, and that she is plucking out her own feathers to weave into the cloth, bleeding so that she can create it. Seeing her husband in the doorway, the crane wife looks at him with sad eyes and flies away forever.

This album is gorgeous. It's the Decemberists we all know and love, but somehow fuller and more ambitious in parts — the whole becoming a mix between old and new, prog-rock and poppier fare, and all lovely.

If new music isn't a visceral enough experience for you, check out these embodiments of compositional prowess performing at Higher Ground.

All hail Higher Ground. They have an outstanding calendar lineup this fall and best of all, it's 45 minutes away. No one has any excuse not to go see these shows. I mean it.

Elf Power – Sept. 26: Elephant 6 collective members Elf Power are low-fi gods. Worship.

Built to Spill – Oct. 1: If anyone else was depressed for a week when their April 30 Higher Ground show was cancelled, here's a chance to redeem your tickets/dignity.

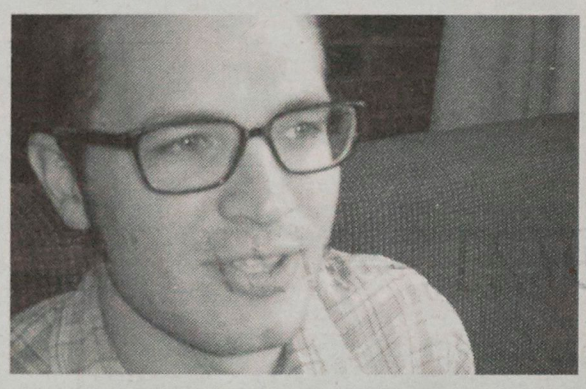
Secret Machines – Oct. 6: I'm not actually sure that this will be a good show. Their latest album was merely "meh" – the songs all ran into one another, kind of putting me into an electro-coma. The previous album was pretty good though, so I plan on giving them the benefit of the doubt.

Go and be enlightened.

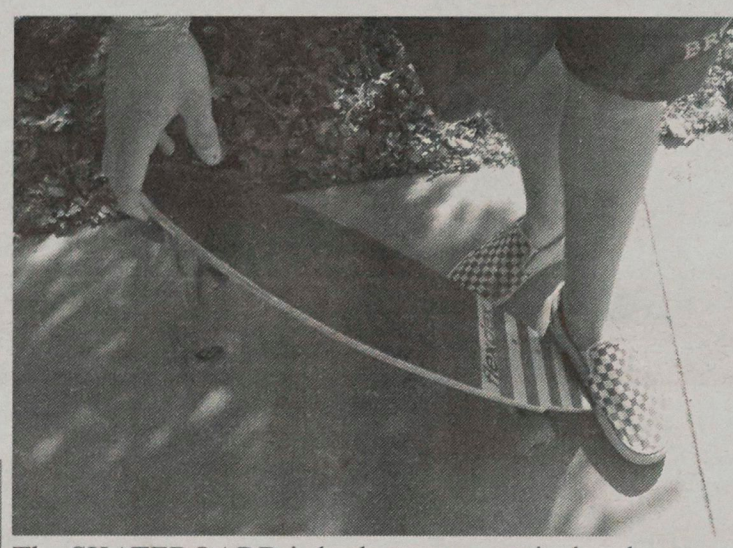
MIDDLEBURY STRIKES A POSE

From New York's runways to the Proctor Terrace...

We're forecasting this season's high fashion to take Middlebury by storm. Fashion can feel distant from the rolling hills and snowy fields of the Green Mountain State, but just as some students express themselves through lines of a poem or the balance of a chem equation, others use style. And this season, with its fresh take on everything from belts to bangs, sneakers to suspenders, hoodies to heels, the fashion tribes don what is quite possibly the defining style of our era. Here, Middlebury students take on fashion with a bold and inventive twist.

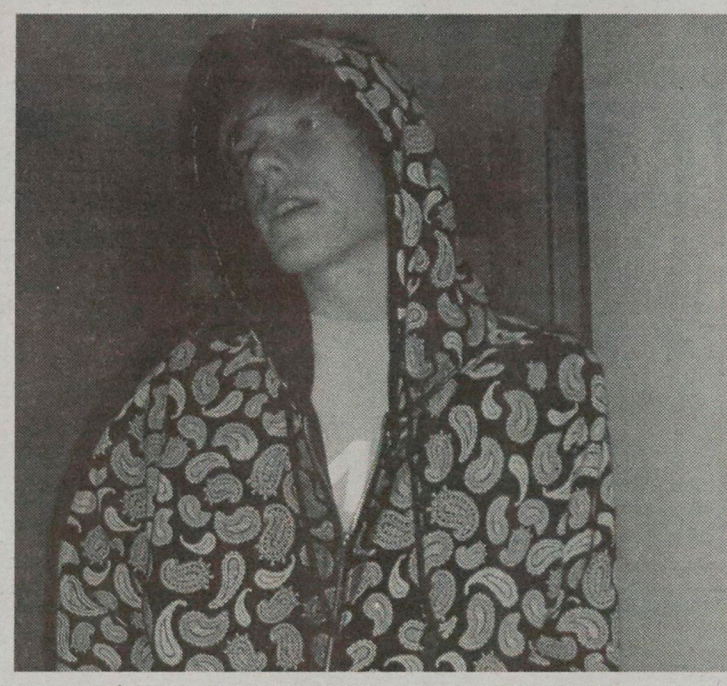


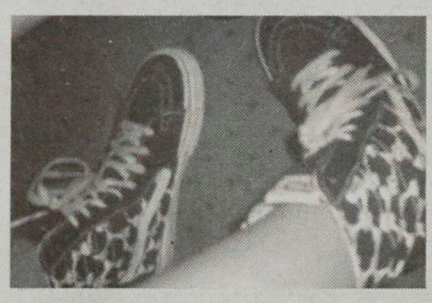
THICK RIMMED GLASSES add tailored dimension, WELLIES lend funky flair and the GRAPHIC HOODIE gives new edge to this timeless college classic.



The SKATEBOARD is both a very practical and, let's face it, highly fashionable accessory.

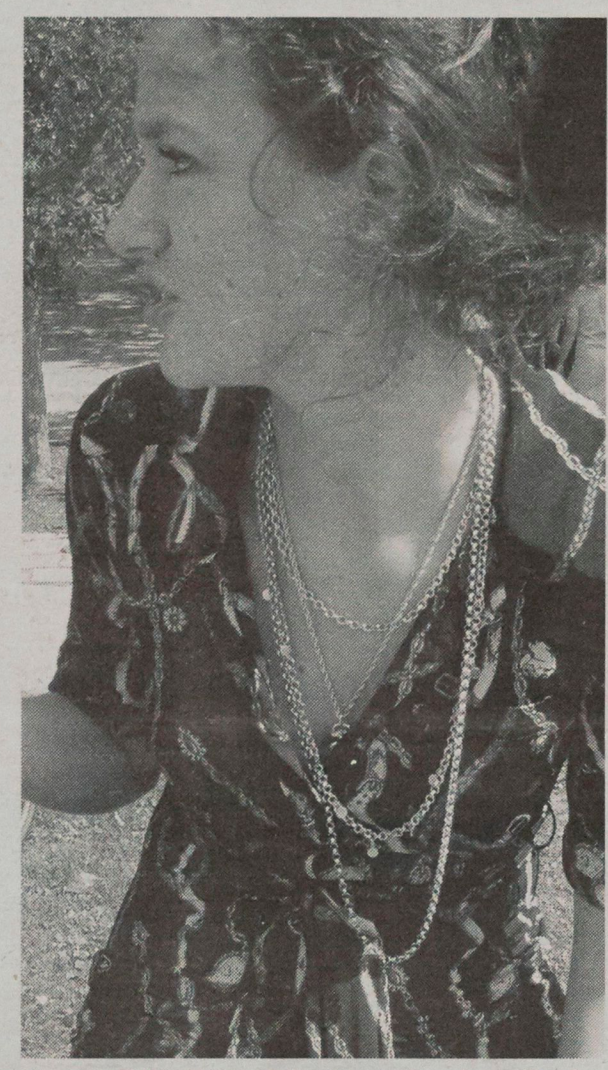
Check out fall's hottest fashion finds!





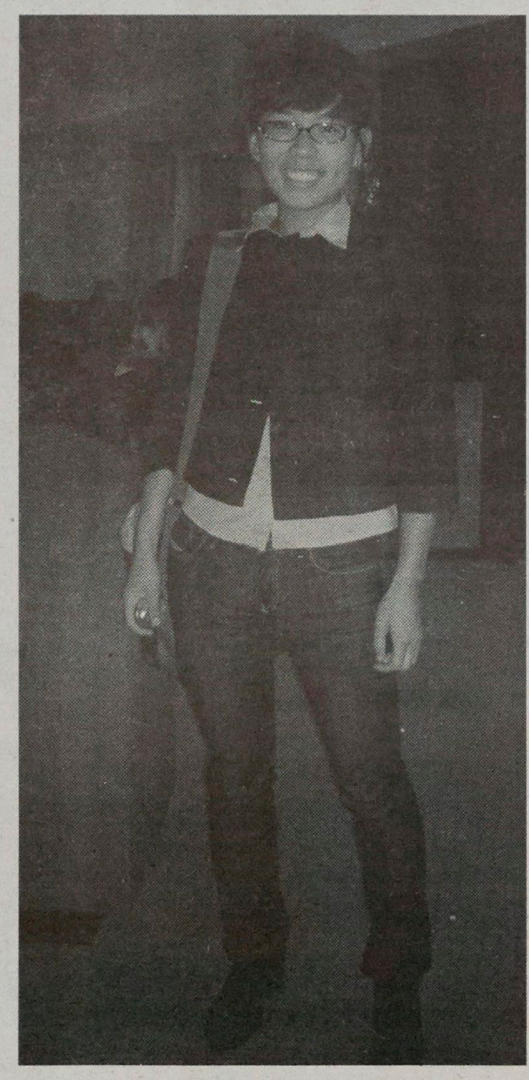
80s flavor revived in these RETRO HIGHTOPS. Whether it be Vans, Nike, Reebok, Asics or the newest Harajuku hit, don't forget to dress your feet this fall.

Look around you and be inspired by Middlebury's own fabulous fashionistas. From Crocs to Cavalli, this campus wears its creativity boldly. So, maybe that old furry fleece, those torn, tarnished jeans, even your favorite Red Sox cap are the newest great trends if they're worn with confidence, charisma and character.

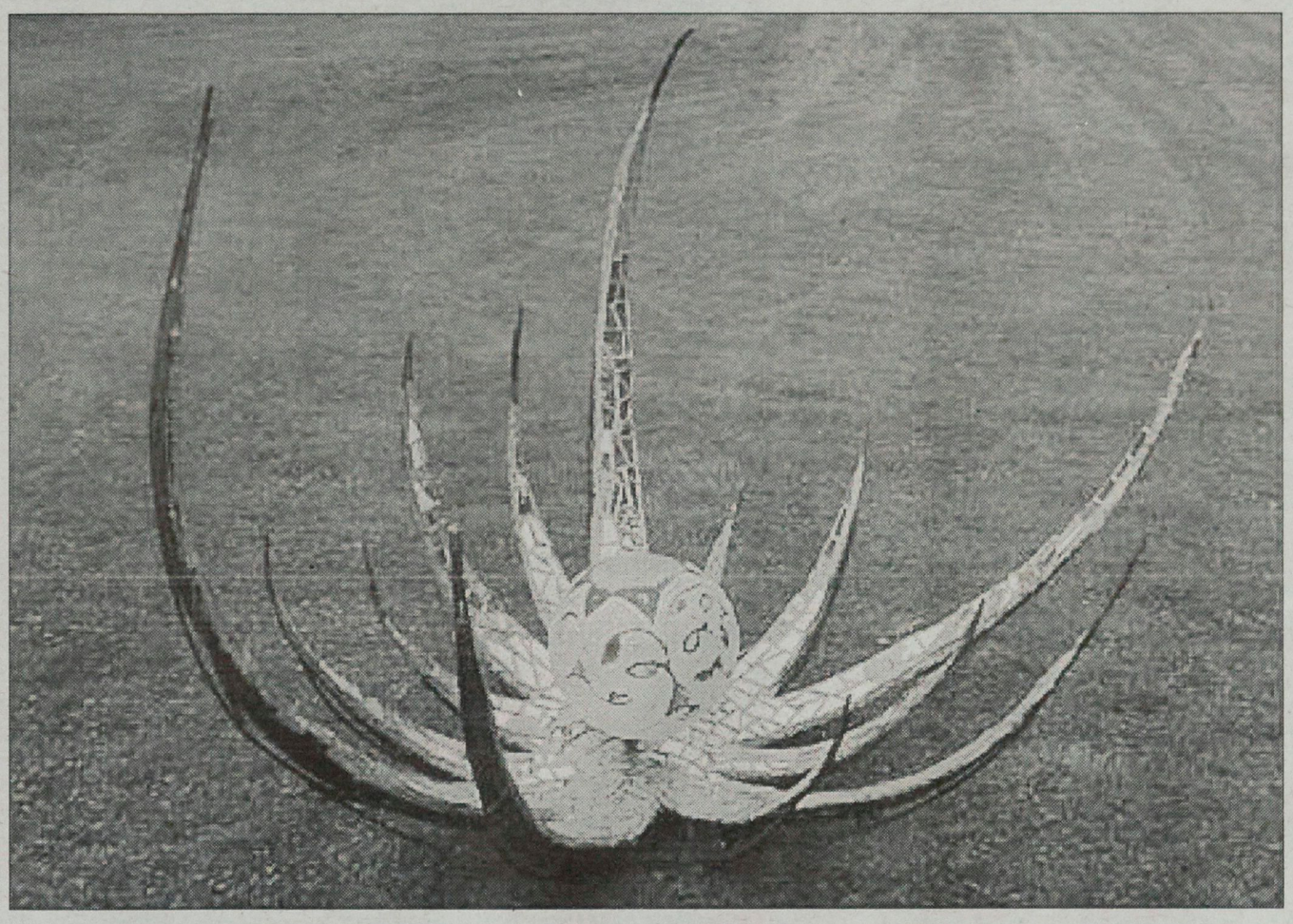


The LAYERED NECKLACE is all the rage. Silver, gold or laden with charms, this accoutrement adds class to any outfit.

THE SKINNY JEAN



Vermont Sculpture Festival gives shape to local artists



Courtesy

Middlebury College students, overwhelmed by ten page papers and chemistry final exams, often forget the beauty of the surrounding area of Vermont and all the exciting events that take place in this lovable state. A fun way to enjoy Vermont presents itself in the Vermont Sculpture Festival. Held at the home of Charlet and Peter Davenport at Line Farm in Woodstock, Vt, the annual festival thoughtfully presents these local artists' installation pieces. Charlet Davenport explained the importance of the event in its effort to support local artists, explaining that, "We think that the art viewed and created for outdoor sculpture exhibits makes great sense for our state. People love to be outside and to look at the surroundings in Vermont. Many artists live here and many people who can buy art live here, so it just seems to be a great fit." Framed by vibrant fall foliage, the sculptures at Line Farm will take your breath away while also helping the local artist community of this state that we love so dearly.

To the left is Robert Markey's *Emergence.* Crafted from ferro cement, mirror, marble, smalti and gold, this work is one example of the innovative sculptures displayed at the festival.

Line Farm is open for visitation from dawn until dusk throughout this entire fall, usually ending around Nov. 1. For more information, call (802) 443-1178 or visit www.sculpturefest.org.

Editors' A&E picks
for the week of 9/21 - 9/27

21

RIDDLELIKELOVE
8 p.m. at The Flynn Center for the Performing Arts in Burlington
Hailed by resident director of the Vermont Stage Company Stephen Golux as "an exquisite evening of the theater," this one-woman show starring Julie Fitzpatrick explores the worlds of both the hearing and the deaf through music and comedy. Riddlelikelove, a production of Middlebury's Town Hall Theatre, is aptly timed to coincide with National Deaf Awareness Week.

22

VERMONT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
8 p.m. – 10 p.m. Center for the Arts
Whether you're getting back in touch with Green Mountain State culture or discovering it for the first time, The Vermont Symphony Orchestra — part of the Made in Vermont Music Festival — will be sure to put you in the bucolic mindset. The concert will include renditions of Bartok's Romanian dances as well as a talk by Associate Professor of Music Peter Hamlin concerning his inspiration to use a Vermont fiddle tune as the basis for his new work. Tickets are only $5 for Middlebury students.

23

HIRSCHFIELD FILM: CACHE
3 p.m. and 8 p.m in Dana Auditorium
Panic spreads through a middle-class household when mysterious videotapes showcasing the family begin to appear in this Cannes Film Festival winner. Directed by Michael Haneke, this thriller keeps audiences enthralled with impressive performances by Daniel Auteuil and Juliette Binoche. It questions personal global responsibility as well as providing thought-provoking political undertones. Cache, which is in French featuring English subtitles, won Best Film at the European Film Awards.

25

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM
7:30 p.m. in Wright Theatre
In an innovative take on this classic Shakespeare comedy, award-winning director Anne Bogart and her critically-acclaimed SITI Company challenge the perspective held on everyday life. Set in a landscape reminiscent of the one wielded by Steinbeck in his classic novel The Grapes of Wrath, this updated production will have audiences examining classical theatre in an entirely different light.

25

ATMOSPHERE WITH BROTHER ALI, PSALM ONE, MAC LETHAL AND DJ RARE GROOVE
9 p.m. Higher Ground Ballroom, Burlington
Tickets: $18 in advance/$20 at the door
Travel out of the sphere of falsetto indie-pop and emo-complaint rock into the fresh beats of Atmosphere– a hip-hop group from Minneapolis fronted by rapper Slug a.k.a. Sean Daley. Composers of *OverCast!*, an album regarded as an underground hip-hop classic, Atmosphere provides music that is laced with an impressive combination of inventive rhymes and complex lyrics.

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WHERE: Middlebury's American Legion Hall
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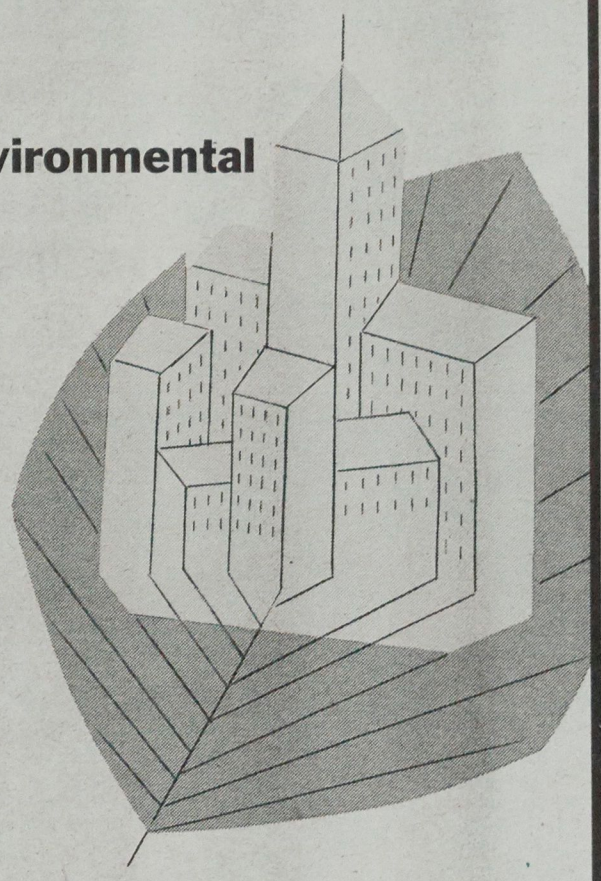

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The Scouting Report:

Inside the Huddle with Wesleyan

The last time Middlebury played Wesleyan on Youngman Field at Alumni Stadium, lacrosse defenseman Gabe Wood '06 ran the length of the field and deposited the NESCAC championship-clinching-goal into the net as time expired. Chances are the football game will not be as close.

Wesleyan has lost its last ten football games, dating back two years, and has only won one game in its last 14 tries. But they still have Middlebury's number as Wesleyan holds the series advantage 22-17-2 (which dates back to 1907). Middlebury has not beat Wesleyan since 1994.

Saturday's game sure is going to be a big one. Not as big as Wesleyan's #78 Miles Adams, OL, 6-6 330 lbs. Not as small as #30 Anastasios Fotinos RB, 5-6, 170lbs. Here's how the Cardinals look, from top to bottom:

Players to Watch

On the Offense:

#11 Zach Librizzi, QB (Total yardage leader in the NESCAC last year. He ran 36 more times than his running back last season.)

#9 Mark Noonan, WR (Led the team in receiving yards and catches last year.)

On the Defense:

#45 Tim O'Callaghan LB (Led the team in tackles last year.)

#4 Steve Secundo, DB (Had three interceptions in 2005.)

On Special Teams:

#28 Chris Helsel, PK (75% last season with a long of 33 yards.)

#14 AJ Taucher, P (Fourth best punter in NESCAC last year.)

Telling Number

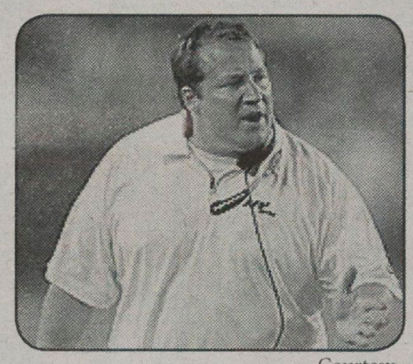
2 The number of former Wesleyan football players that are currently NFL head coaches: the Patriots' Bill Belichick and the Jets' Eric Mangini. Belichick played both center and tight-end for the Cardinals, while Mangini was a nose-tackle. Wesleyan is in a tie for fourth in terms of colleges that have produced the most number of current NFL head coaches. Eastern Illinois (Sean Payton of the the Saints, Brad Childress of the Vikings and Mike Shanahan of the Broncos), USC (Jack Del Rio of the Jaguars, Jeff Fisher of the Titans and Mike Holmgren of the Seahawks) and San Diego State (John Fox of the Panthers, Herm Edwards of the Chiefs and Joe Gibbs of the Redskins) are tied for first with three, while BYU (Andy Reid of the Eagles and Brian Billick of the Ravens) has two alums in the pro coaching ranks, just like Wesleyan.

Word on the Street

Bill [Belichick] and I both went to Wesleyan. There is not very good football there.

—Eric Mangini to Mike Reiss of *The Boston Globe*

Courtesy



Courtesy

Panther Photos

Albert Bitici

Brian Young '08 and the defense will try shut-down Librizzi on Saturday.

Albert Bitici

Tiger Lyon '07 looks to begin his senior season on a high note.

Chris Heinrich

Jimmy Butcher '08 runs hard to the Panther Invitational finish line.

XC wins pair of titles

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

to overhydrate and risk cramping up, but if you do not drink enough water, you will definitely regret it during the race."

Although admittedly a little nervous before the race, Free said he was able to free himself from the pre-race butterflies. "Once the gun goes off the world turns around, and the nerves are gone as confidence settles in," said Free.

While he ran around the Ralph Myhre Golf Course — site of the ongoing Duke Nelson Invitational — Free noticed the golfers on the first loop but said, "the second time we passed that same area, however, I was much more focused and don't think I noticed them at all." McDonough never noticed the golfers when he went by. "Pretty much everything in the peripheral vision gets blurry," he said.

The photo finish between Lyon and teammate Andi Giddings '07, for second and third – with Lyon .8 of a second in front – must have been pretty blurry in it's own right. Each was averaging about a 6:14.2 minute mile.

"It's always great to see the Men's and Women's teams put on such dominating performances at home," added McDonough, "but we also understand that we have a long season ahead of us."

Both cross country teams return to action on Saturday, Sept. 23 as they travel to Massachusetts to the Williams Invitational.

Ski team bikes for Brush

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

and off the hill. On Saturday, the steep hills of Route 125 did not deter Brush from riding alongside her teammates. While the accident limited her physical capacities, it's apparent that her mental acuity and bubbly charisma, were not compromised in any way. Inspired by the event, Brush and her father, Charlie Brush '69 worked through the beginning of the ride's second loop. For Brush, it was her "own part of the 100 miles," the longest distance that she herself had ridden her adaptive bike, stopping just short of nine miles.

Each rider wore the benefit's specially designed bike jerseys by Verge, pumping through each mile in a surf-inspired design that mirrored the college's colors of blue and white. The ride's entire route included two makeshift fuel stops that were stocked to the brim with Gu Energy Gel, Power Bars, bagels, bananas and energy water as well as countless encouraging faces.

Two cars drove with the movements of the cyclists, one Middlebury college van, as well as a van from Earl's Bike shop, which was stocked with all the riders' necessary technical support. This was helpful when Zeke Davisson '08 rear-ended Coach Stever Bartlett, damaging each person's bike.

In preparation for the day, Brush's cousin, Julie Brush, orchestrated a raffle-based fundraiser with the goal of collecting enough funds necessary for putting Brush back on the slopes in an adaptive monoski. While the monoski is something that Brush hopes to use in the upcoming winter season, additional revenues from the race were to be put towards the Kelly Brush Trust, which exists in order to fund Brush's goal of continuing her active lifestyle. Sports such as golf and surfing are in Brush's immediate future and the adaptive sports equipment necessary for these activities was something that was deemed non-negotiable.

But with each rider came revenues that they had individually gained in donated pledges for the event. With the help and support of her family and friends involved in the Century Ride, Brush was successful in raising $54,804.99 as of Monday September 18; it is a dollar figure that continues to increase as last-minute checks filter into the Brush Trust.

The day came to an end in true ski-team-style, with a barbeque and celebration in the late afternoon. The grilling and conversation was finished with the highly-anticipated raffle, around which the fundraising was made possible. Donated items such as Spyder jackets, ski-passes and Volkl and Rossignol skis were all included in the drawing and came from sponsors within the tightly-knit ski industry in which Brush and so many of her teammates grew up.

The ski team's success with their biking in the Century ride was accelerated by the hope that Kelly will return to the slopes. Following a trip to Colorado during Thanksgiving break, where she will navigate the new monoski that she purchases, Kelly plans on returning to the redesigned trails of the Middlebury College Snow Bowl.

Anna Furney

Members of the Middlebury Alpine Ski team pose for a photo with Brush and her family.

EDITORS' PICKS

Questions of the week:	*Geoff Homer*	*James Kerrigan*	*Jeff Patterson*
	USA	EUROPE	USA
Who will win the Ryder Cup? USA or Europe?	Tiger Woods will play with something to prove, while Captain Lehman will do a superb job of keeping the team relaxed.	Several Americans are playing well, but the Europeans always find a way to gel as a team and get it done when it counts.	Despite losing four of the last five Ryder Cups, the Americans will win at the K Club. Sergio Garcia's putting woes will cost the Euros.
Will the women's golf team keep their winning streak going at Mt. Holyoke?	YES Despite the presence of D-I teams, Gallagher '07 and crew are just too much for their competition.	NO Orchards Golf Club is long for a par 71 and challenging enough to host a US Women's Open in 2004. The women's run will end soon.	YES For the fifth time in a row, the Fab Five will finish first. Their average margin of victory this season has been 36 strokes.
Will the football team finish the season over .500?	YES I live with two dangerous players, each on opposite sides of the ball. Plus, if I said no they would beat me up.	YES It's about time.	YES It is the year of the Tiger (see Woods and the Detroit baseball team) and Quarterback Tiger Lyon will follow the lead and lead the team to at least five wins.
All-Time Record:	**1 - 1 (.500)**	**0 - 2 (.000)**	**0 - 2 (.000)**

By Jeff Klein

33-20 Oklahoma. Just under three minutes left. Oregon with the ball on their own 35. You could sense the feeling of disappointment and surrender in the Duck faithful at Autzen Stadium. The Oklahoma Sooners were about to defeat Oregon for the third straight time.

Then, in a flash, everything changed. With just over a minute left, Oregon quarterback Dennis Dixon scrambled for a touchdown to bring the Ducks within six.

Still, Oklahoma was a recovered onside-kick away from securing the victory. But then things got crazy.

Oregon kicker Luke Bellotti, who also happens to be the coach's son, lightly kicked the ball into the air. There was a mad scramble, and miraculously, Oregon came away with the football. Replays appear to show that an Oregon player touched the ball before it traveled 10 yards, a violation that should have given the ball to Oklahoma. However, after reviewing the play, officials concluded that a Sooner had touched it first, so Oregon retained possession.

Sooner's coach Bob Stoops had even more reason to shake his head on the next play as Dixon hit wideout Brian Paysinger for a 24-yard touchdown and the lead.

Oregon tried a squib kick in hopes of avoiding a long runback. Their plan failed miserably, as Reggie Smith avoided a few tackles and returned the ball 55 yards all the way to Oregon's 27.

Once again, the momentum had shifted. The Sooners ran one ineffective run play, then spiked the ball with two seconds remaining, setting up a potential game-winning field goal. But as Sooner's kicker Garrett Hartley struck the ball and sent it upward, an Oregon Duck reached out and deflected it, securing an Oregon win.

What a day for Oregon football. "This shows the nation we can play with the big boys," Oregon player Patrick Chung said at a post game press conference. "We beat Oklahoma, No. 15 in the nation, and now you have to watch out for Oregon."

This victory provides evidence that the Pac-10 boasts more than one team with elite status; national perception usually only gives USC that label. The Pac-10 spent last weekend whipping Big XII teams as USC beat Nebraska and Arizona State beat Colorado rather handily.

Oregon certainly has silenced some of the doubters, but the Ducks have bigger goals. As coach Mike Bellotti stated, "If you have aspirations to play for a national championship, every game counts, and certainly games against other top-20 teams are the ones by which you gauge yourself." The Ducks have to be feeling pretty good about themselves right now.

Big XII teams, by contrast, are feeling pretty bad. Last weekend Texas A&M almost lost to Army and Texas is still sulking after losing at home to Ohio State. The power seems to have shifted from the Big XII to the Big Ten.

Chris Heinrich

Tri-captain Caitrin Abshere '07 scored thirteen minutes into the game to help the Panthers win their home opener.

Women's soccer out-toughs Tufts

By David Lee
Staff Writer

It all started with a simple head ball. Last Monday on the practice field, following up a solid 1-0 victory over Connecticut College, the women's soccer team was simply going through their daily drills. As tri-captain Christine Bolger '07 went up for a routine header, the worst sound an athlete can ever hear echoed as she landed: pop. Bolger may have torn her ACL, a potentially season-ending-injury. With one of their biggest leaders gone and a tough match-up with perennial rival Tufts the Panther season seemed to hang in the balance.

From the opening whistle, it appeared the Tufts squad just was not enough for the resolve of the Panthers. With fellow captain Bolger out of the line-up, senior tri-captain Caitrin Abshere '07 made her presence felt immediately. In the thirteenth minute, Abshere took a centering pass from Ashley Pfaff '09 and unleashed a rocket from outside the box to make it 1-0. After begging the training staff to clear her to play, senior midfielder Laura Kwoh '07 put the pain in her quad aside and headed a deflected shot into the corner of the net with 10 minutes left in the half to make it 2-0.

Tufts, however, came on strong after the half-time break and, 15 minutes in, slotted away an uncontested header off a corner kick to narrow the lead to 2-1. The remaining 30 minutes of the contest was a defensive battle. The Jumbos repeatedly pounded the ball in the Panther end for the majority of the second half. The Middlebury women, however, refused to break. Led by emerging defensive star Kim Kennedy '08, the Panther back line held strong to withhold the multiple Tufts offensive onslaughts. With the absence of Bolger in the back, Kennedy appears to be handling the newfound responsibility well. "She is a very capable player and did a great job of keeping the defense together," Bolger notes. "I am completely confident in her ability to lead the team." Goalkeeper Adele Plunkett '09 recorded 10 saves on the day as the Panthers were eventually victorious.

Some would believe that such a tragic injury like Bolger's would lead to a hole in the line-up, but although the senior captain's presence will be sorely missed, a promising first year class appears to be on the rise. Bolger comments, "They are a really strong class and saw playing time at all positions on Saturday." As for the freshmen year jitters? The seniors do not see that as a problem. "It was clear that it was their first NESCAC game, they were a little wound up, but they all definitely left their mark on the game," said Bolger.

Women's golf wins fourth consecutive tournament

Continued from page 24

national NCAA Division III tournament.

Not to be outdone were the Middlebury women, who hosted their own tournament and once again dominated the competition. After last weekend's impressive victory at the St. Lawrence Invitational, where they won by 47 shots, the women's team looked to continue their success in the Middlebury Invitational. The first round was played at Ralph Myhre Golf Course and the second round at nearby Neshobe Golf Course in Brandon, VT due to the men's team hosting the Duke Nelson Invitational.

Despite playing two different courses, the women won the Middlebury Invitational handily, beating second place Williams by 25 strokes. Each Panther placed in the top six overall. Anne O'Leary of Williams College captured medalist honors after beating Karen Levin '08 in a playoff, while Julie Ellenberger '09 and Heather Gallagher '07 tied for second. The Ortega twins, Allison '07 and Kerry '07 rounded out the top six.

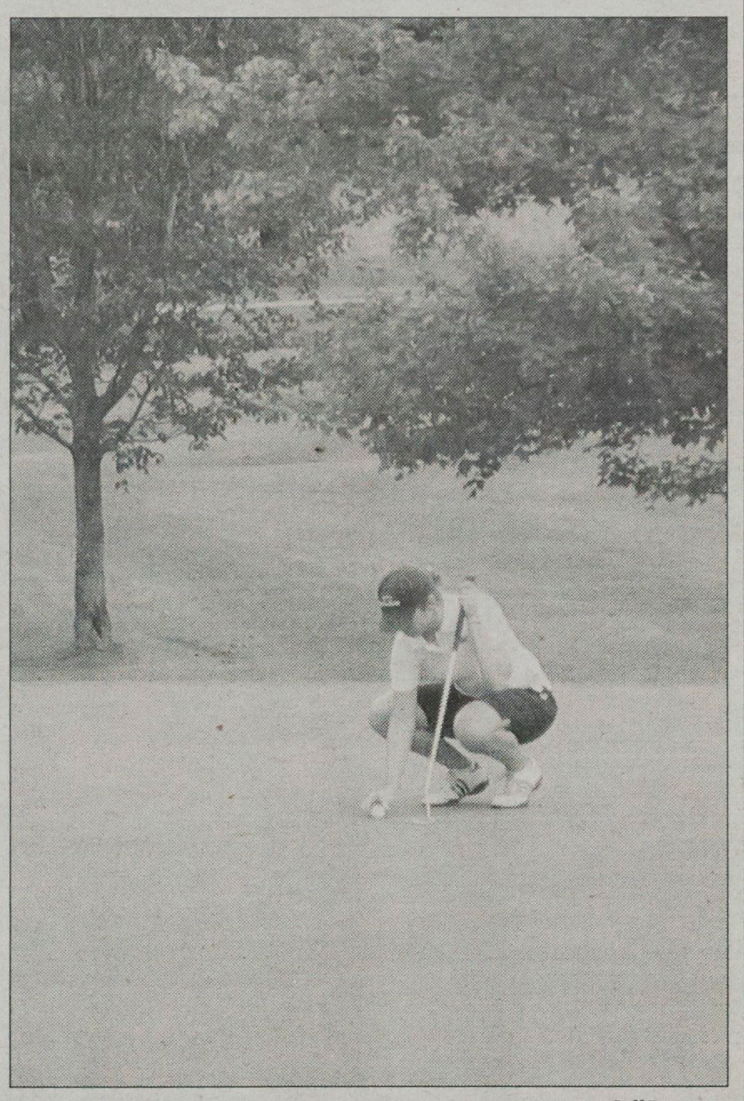
Based on the stellar results of the past two tournaments, there is no doubt that the Panther women are one of the top ten teams in the nation. Coach Bill Beaney's squad looks to continue their dominance next weekend when they travel to Mt. Holyoke to play at The Orchards Golf Club, host to the 2004 U.S. Women's Open. Competition will be stiff, as several D-I teams are set to compete.

By the Numbers

By Jeff Patterson, Sports Editor

2	Number of "bears" who played in the men's soccer game vs. Tufts. Bear Duker and Midd's Baer Fisher '09 both scored a goal for their team.
2	Plattsburg State runners, Matt Deshane and Toni Wiszowaty who won the Panther Invitational individual titles. Both men's and women's Cardinals teams finished third.
10/16	Ratio of number of goals Casey Ftorek '08 has had a hand (and/or foot) in this year compared to the number of goals the men's soccer team has scored.
7/9	Ratio of number of goals Marnie Rowe '08.5 has had a hand (and/or stick) in this year compared to the number of goals the field hockey team has scored.
6'9"	Height in feet and inches of Tufts golfer/basketball player Pat Sullivan who competed in the Duke Neson Golf Tournament.
69	Final round score of Chad Bellmare '07 in the Duke Nelson, which helped propel the Panthers from seventh (after Saturday) to fourth place at the end of the tournament.

Women's golf wins



Jeff Patterson

Julie Ellenberger '09 lines up a putt on the 18th hole of the Ralph Myhre Golf Course on the first day of the Middlebury Invitational.

INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

Tight end Jamie Staples '07 spills his story

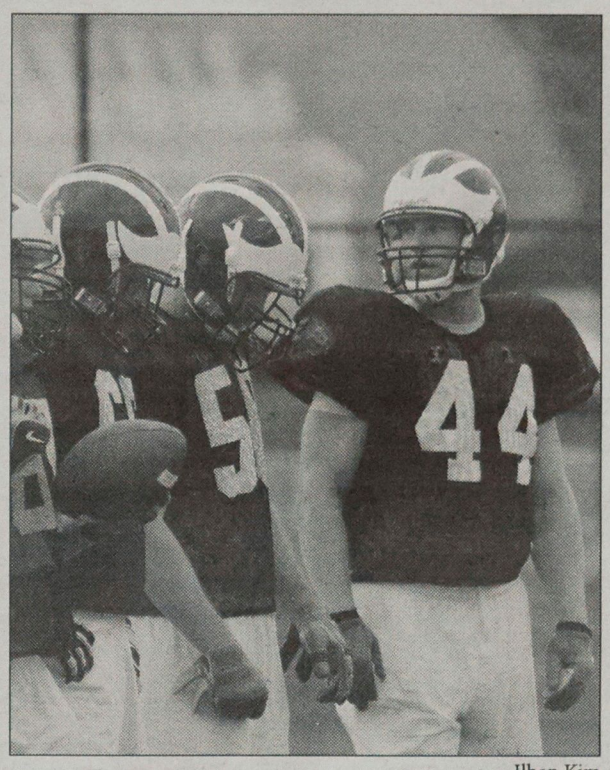
By James Kerrigan
Sports Editor

Senior co-captain Jamie Staples and the Middlebury football team are eager to build on the success they saw at the end of last year's season. After winning three of their final four contests, Middlebury is eyeing the top of the NESCAC standings for 2006.

The Pacific Grove, California-native also finished with a bang in 2005 as the tight end caught 10 passes for 123 yards including a touchdown in a 21-16 win over Tufts. He ended his junior year leading the team in receiving with 473 yards — nearly twice as many as the second best target.

Staples, an international politics and economics major, currently resides in an off-campus house. He commutes to and from work every day, at the beginning of the day his office has a desk and at the end of the day it has an endzone.

So who knows the playmaker better, his quarterback Tiger Lyon '07 or his housemate and SGA President Alex Stanton? Lyon knows where Staples is on the field at all times, but does he know him inside and out? Stanton battles Staples in football, too, although Stanton does most of his tackling with the "hitstick" button of popular football video games. Does Stanton know what it is like inside the locker room?



Ilhan Kim

Staples #44 gears up for the home opener vs. Wesleyan.

Teammate vs. Roommate

	Staples	Lyon	Stanton
Number of snooze button slaps in the morning?	none	none (1)	none (1)
Favorite video game?	NCAA Football	NCAA Football (1)	Madden (0)
Favorite game during Middlebury career?	Tufts last season	Tufts - 2005 (1)	Tufts (1)
D-I National title pick?	Ohio State	California (0)	Ohio State (1)
Most played artist or group on iTunes?	The Federation	Gwen Stefani (0)	Gwen Stefani (0)
Favorite actress?	Uma Thurman	Hmm...(0)	Halle Berry (0)
Homepage?	BBC.com	some surf website (0)	middlebury.edu (0)
final score...		3	3

A tie in the Staples sweepstakes? Yeah, we've got that.

Neither the gavel banging SGA president nor the touchdown throwing quarterback could seperate themself as the Staples know-it-all, yet both provided some valuable insight to the life of Jamie Staples.

It is clear that Staples is a morning person as he is up with the first sound of his alarm. This is roughly 3.5 snooze button slaps below the College average.

Interestingly both Lyon and Stanton were convinced that Gwen Stefani frequents Staples' playlists. Lyon even went so far as to say that "Holla Back Girl" is played most often.

When asked about his classes, Staples noted Latin America Political Development as his favorite, whereas Stanton commented that his preferred class is "anything but Latin America Political Development."

Staples, who transfered to Middlebury from University of California at Berkley, has found a new home in the Green Mountain State and in the vacant spaces of opposing defenses. He hopes to leave his make his impact felt this season.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

Date	Sport	Vs.	Result	Comments
Sept. 16-17	M Soccer	Tufts Plymouth St.	4-1 3-0	Each player contributed for the Panthers in an impressive weekend sweep to keep the undefeated season alive
Sept. 16	W Soccer	Tufts	2-1	Caitrin Abshere '07 and Laura Kwoh '07 score for the Panthers as the defense contained the Jumbo attack
Sept. 16	Field Hockey	Tufts	3-1	Panthers score three second half goals in less than four minutes to secure the win
Sept. 16	X Country	Invitational	M: 1st W: 1st	Jimmy Butcher '08 and Makely Lyon '07 each tallied second place finishes
Sept. 16-17	M Golf	Duke Nelson	4th	Chad Bellmare '07 fires a two-uner 69 on Sunday to help Middlebury finish fourth out of twenty five teams.
Sept. 15-16	W Golf	Midd Invit.	1st	Led by Karen Levin '08, the Panthers win the Middlebury Invitational

SPORTS BRIEFS

BY GEOFF HOMER, SPORTS EDITOR

Bob Ritter to talk on ESPN 1490

Followers of Middlebury football will be pleased to learn that WFAD, a division of ESPN radio, channel 1490, has expanded it's coverage of the football team, and will include a new segment titled, "The Coaches Show with Bob Ritter." The first scheduled airing will take place on September 21 at 7 p.m. The show will continue throughout the Panther season.

ESPN 1490 Sports Director Chris Fells, who is also the play-by-play voice of the Panthers, will host the show. Fells hopes that the program will bring more exposure to Middlebury football, both within Addison County and across the country.

Tune into ESPN 1490 or visit the website at www.wfad1490.com to listen to the games.

IM sports kicks off its fall season

"I'm excited for IM sports."

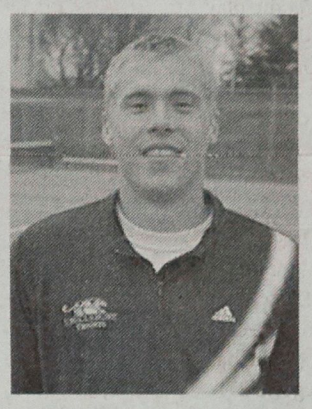
The semester doesn't officially start until you get an e-mail from reigning NESCAC baseball coach of the year Bob Smith explaining which sports are on the intramural tap. On Friday, Sept. 15 at 9:09 a.m. all students received it.

This fall, touch football, soccer, volleyball, badminton and tennis will be played on the fields behind the athletic center and on various courts all over campus. Former high school captains and other exceptional athletes will compete for the most desired gray shirts at Middlebury. Wear the tee that proclaims you are a Middlebury Intramural Champion and people will know you are something special.

September showers may muddy up the fields or turn the Proctor Tennis courts into a slip n' slide, but most of the time, the games will go on.

Men's tennis travels to Cornell

Over the weekend the men's tennis team competed in the Cornell Invitational, which was the season opener for the Panther squad. The annual fall tournament was stacked with Division I teams, but Middlebury held its own. In each of the singles brackets, a Panther individual advanced to the semi-finals. Each player lost to a Division I opponent, but the team's strong showing spoke volumes about its strength. Captain Kevin Bergesen '07, pictured right, lost in the semis but had to be proud of his team's success.



In doubles, Conrad Olson '09 and Fil Marinkovic '08 won the B flight bracket, while Alex Scott '07 and George Mayer '07 lost in the finals of the A bracket.

Volleyball drops two of three

Following its impressive start to the season at the Potsdam Invitational Tournament, the women's volleyball team went 1-2 this past weekend in its first NESCAC quad at Bowdoin College.

The Panthers began the weekend against host Bowdoin on Friday night, with a contest in which they lost 3-1. Middlebury jumped out to a 1-0 lead, but the home team won the final three and the match. Lexie Fisher '08 led the way with 14 kills and 3 blocks. On the defensive front, Olivia Minkhorst '09 had 17 digs, while Lacee Patterson '06.5 added 16 digs and 30 assists and newcomer Reisa Bloch '10 chipped in with 15 digs.

The following day the Panthers squared off against Colby, last year's NESCAC champion, and Bates. In Saturday's first match versus Colby, the Panthers were again defeated 3-1. All of the game scores were close, but Colby was too much down the stretch. Fisher was once again impressive, adding 19 kills and 4 blocks to her 29 digs. Lacee Patterson continued her solid performance with 9 kills, 19 digs and a noteworthy 40 assists, while her sister Lindsay Patterson '08.5 contributed 13 kills and 27 digs. Minkhorst had 27 digs in the losing effort.

The Panthers finished the weekend on a positive note, with a 3-0 drubbing of Bates, where they outscored the Bobcats 90-52. Lacee Patterson lead the team with 31 assists, while Fisher added 11 kills and Minkhorst came up with 10 digs.

Currently the Panthers are 4-3 overall, with a 1-2 record in the NESCAC. The team will look to build upon the momentum from its victory against Bates when they head south this upcoming weekend for the Amherst Classic.

— Seth Miran, Staff Writer

Unsung Hero of the Week

Meghan McGillen '07 (Field Hockey)
The goalie did not allow a single goal in the second half of a 3-1 come-from-behind victory over Tufts.

Golf teams on fire at the Ralph Myhre

By Steve Hauschka
Staff Writer

Last week, the men's golf team was training. They were not hitting balls at the range, not practicing on the course, but rather conditioning in a timed two-mile run. It seems that this fitness has bolstered the team's success as they took home fourth place in last weekend's Duke Nelson Tournament. Many of the top teams in the region attended the tournament held annually at Midd's Ralph Myhre Golf Course.

On the first day of the competition, the Panthers fired four solid rounds in the upper 70s, amassing 309 shots as a team. Powerhouse Skidmore put on a show with a first day total of 291, leading second place New York University by five strokes.

The real magic for the Panthers came on Sunday when the team went low. Harrison Bane '08.5 shot a 73 on the difficult course and Chad Bellmare '07 tied a tournament record with a two-under-par 69. Collectively, the Panthers shot a 296 on Sunday. For the first time in four years the team shot under 300. Bellmare led the team with a two-day 148, followed by Bane with a 150, Mike McCormick '09 with 154, George Baumann '08 with 155 and Jay Yonamine '07 with a 157. Despite Sunday's phenomenal play, the Panthers' two-day total of 605 was not enough to catch Skidmore (591), NYU (593) and Salem State (597). However, Middlebury beat league rivals Williams, Amherst and Hamilton.

Jeff Patterson

Chad Bellmare '07 shot 69 on Sunday in his final Duke Nelson Invitational.

Bellmare remarked that Sunday "felt just like a normal round. Playing that well it goes by really quickly." When asked how this compared to his career highlights, he replied, "it wasn't my best ever, but it was the first time I finished strong in a college tournament."

Through 13 holes (6-18), Bellmare was even par. He then managed to eagle the par five first hole and was "all of a sudden two under with four to play. I played solid the rest of the round and finished with a 69. It was a battle all the way."

Of even greater importance was the team's combined score on Sunday of 296. Bellmare said, "It was a big accomplishment, especially with this group of guys. It sets a new standard since the team is pretty young."

The next two weeks are huge for the men as they travel to Williams and then Bowdoin for the NESCAC championship. As part of a new format this year, the winner of the NESCAC championship will receive an automatic bid to the

See Women's Golf, page 22

Cross country runs away with Invitational

By Jeff Patterson
Sports Editor

No, Jimmy Butcher '08 didn't win the Panther Invitational last Saturday — he came in second — but the men's and women's cross-country teams won the team races in run-away fashion. This year's races marked the fifth consecutive Panther Invitational win for the women and a second straight victory in the event for the men.

Plattsburgh State's Matt Deshane covered the five-mile course in a winning time of 26:06.1 (at a 5:13.2 per mile pace), 49.3 seconds in front of Butcher while fellow Cardinal Toni Wiszowaty topped Middlebury's Makely Lyon '07 by 46.3 seconds for the women's individual title.

"Off the gun, three of us went immediately to the front and set a strong tempo," said Butcher. "DeShane clearly demonstrated that he is in spectacular shape early on in the season. He broke away on the first uphill and never relented; I never had an opportunity to reestablish contact."

Lyon was quick to point out, "They obviously have two very talented individuals, but cross country is a team sport, so having one strong individual on each side doesn't cut it in team scoring." The Panther women scored with seven runners in the top 10, while the men had seven runners in the top 15.

"Matt is a great runner and he put on a great performance last weekend," said co-captain Will McDonough '07. "He's an accomplished five-time All-American, so we knew he'd be fast. We really never talked about him beforehand, though, because the individual title isn't something we were concerned with. We won as a team, and that depth is what will ultimately help us in the long run."

Saturday marked the opening race of the season for both teams and the opener for first-year runners. "I could not have wished for a better outcome," said Chris Free '10, who finished eighth overall in his first collegiate race. "The entire team ran terrifically and I was happy to see us running in a pack and coming out victorious."

For the seniors on the team, the Panther Invitational was both their first race of the year and their last race on Middlebury soil. "Winning the first race of the season is always a great place to start," said McDonough, who finished fourth, his best finish in his four years of running in the event. "For the three seniors on the [men's] team, I know it's especially meaningful, as it is the last race we'll ever run on our home course."

Home course advantage starts earlier in the day than one might imagine. Free ate a "Saturday morning breakfast [that] was far from [his] typical pre-race meal." It included "several pancakes with fruit topping and whip cream along with a quiche, a banana and some sort of muffins. Normally I confine myself to dry cereal, bread, and fruit," he said, "but that morning I wanted a full stomach pre-race."

Taking in the correct amount of fluids was crucial given the "muggy and hot" conditions. "It's tough weather to prepare for," said McDonough, "because you don't want

See XC wins, page 21

Brush '08 bikes nine miles after ski accident

By Anna Furney
Staff Writer

Following a debilitating accident at the Williams College Carnival in February of 2006, Middlebury student Kelly Brush '08 was left without feeling and control of her body from the waist down. The injury, however, has not prevented her from bike riding.

On Saturday Sept. 16, 2006, along with her exciting return to campus for the start of the 2006–2007 academic year in order to complete her baccalaureate degree in film studies, came the first annual Kelly Brush Century Ride. The ride, which consisted of two fifty-mile loops through Addison County, was started — and most notably finished — by roughly 25 cyclists, a combination of Kelly's close friends and teammates, coaches both current and former, as well as family members.

Many of the group's riders had never finished more than 25 miles in one sitting, let alone 100 miles in one day. It is therefore easy to understand how the 100-mile feat was, in gesture alone, a formidable achievement. While the maxim does state that some journeys are longer than others, those journies can be made all the easier by the company with which you make the trip.

The group began the 100-mile ride at 8:30 am on Saturday and the final riders came into the finish at about 4 p.m. While the group began the ride in a uniform pack, the cyclists were ultimately separated by speed and ability. Impressively, the first group of riders breezed through the first fifty miles in a mere three hours, while the second and third groups of riders were only an hour behind the lead cyclist.

For Middlebury's Alpine ski team, last season was one that challenged all of the members both on

See Ski Team, page 21

Anna Furney

The ski team that usually plows through gates on the slopes navigated the turns of Vermont country roads.

THIS WEEK IN SPORTS

INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM: JAMIE STAPLES
Who knows him better? His QB or roommate? page 23

GAMES TO WATCH
Football vs. Wesleyan, Sept. 23 at 1:00 p.m.
Field Hockey vs. Wesleyan, Sept. 23 at 11:00 a.m.

WOMEN'S SOCCER:
Panthers hold on for 2-1 victory against Tufts, page 22